叶　恭弘

不知道我是沒頭沒腦的拼命，還是一廂情願認為自己有潛力，才會畫出這四部作品。客觀的看來，這些作品其實都還滿不成熟的，只是沒想到每部都獲得了許多讀者的支持，對我而言它們都是珍貴的寶物，不管各位讀者是初次閱讀或是早就已經看過，要是能因這部作品而感動，我也就心滿意足了。

（順便一提，上面那個是作者因為發行短篇集，感動不已的樣子。）

正式授權台灣中文版

BLACK CITY

黑色城市

叶恭弘短篇集

叶恭弘
Yasuhiro Kano

TONG LI COMICS

BLACK CITY 黑色城市 全

叶恭弘

東立
NT-85

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大受好評發售中！

RebelliousArt
MangaArt's Fallen Angels

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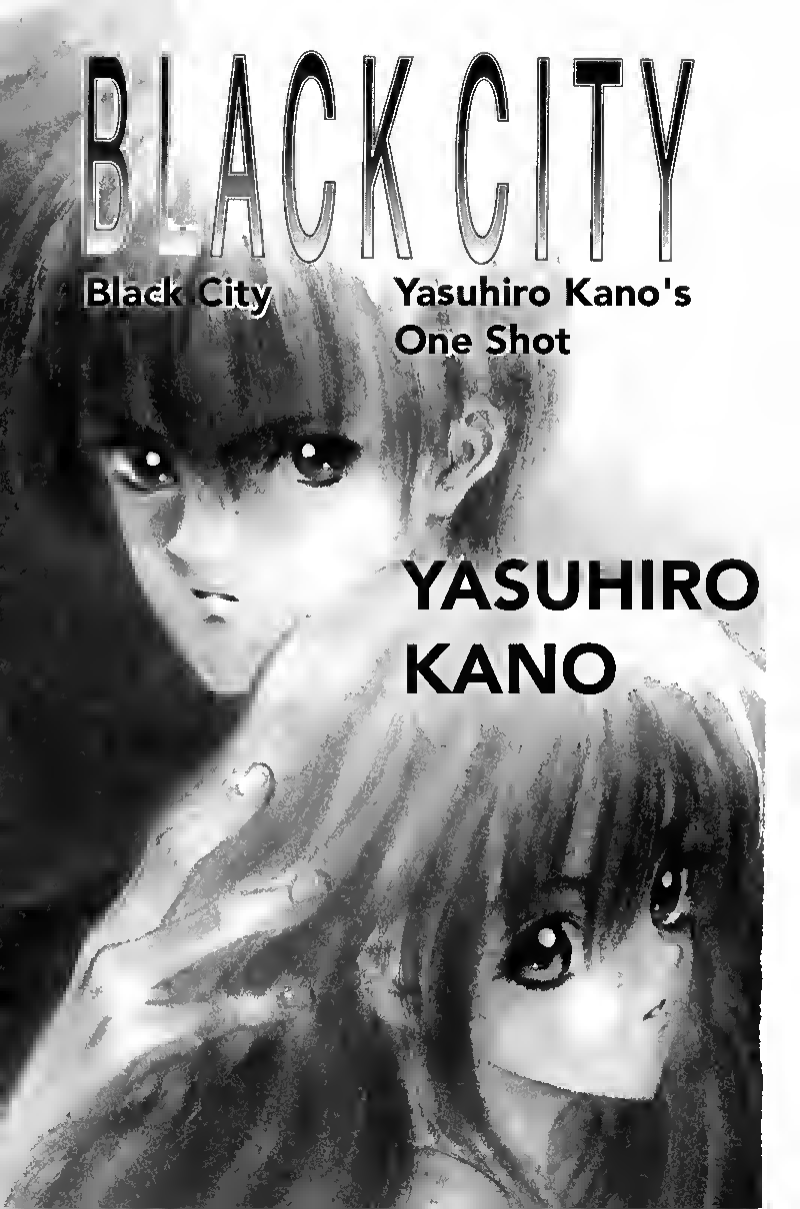
MangaArt's Fallen Angels


BLACK CITY
Black City
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One Shot
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KANO

BLACK CITY

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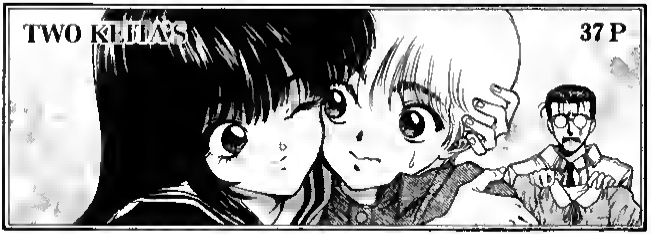
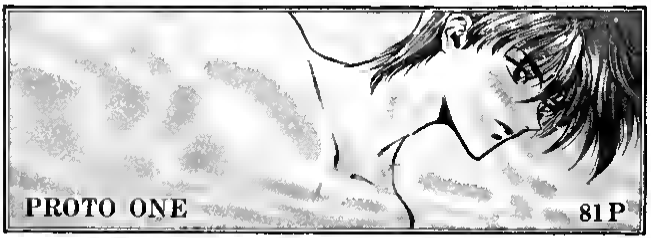
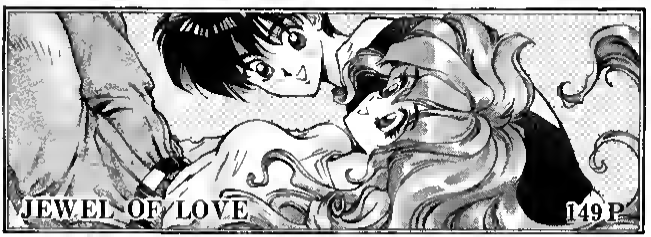
Black City
Yasuhiro Kano's One Shot







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MangaArt's Fallen Angels

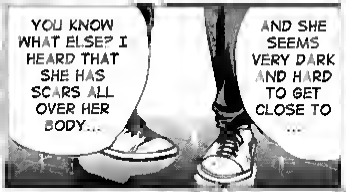
BLACK CITY
SOMEHOW, SHE ALWAYS SEEMED RATHER DARK AND GLOOMY TO ME.
I HAVE ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT ABOUT HER.
SO, I DON'T KNOW WHEN I STARTED TO HAVE A CRUSH ON HER.
HOWEVER, I NEVER THOUGHT THAT LIKING HER...
SFX <THUMP THUMP>
ZZZZT ZZZZT
WOULD CHANGE MY LIFE DRASTICALLY.

RebelliousArt
MangaArt's Fallen Angels

BLACK CITY

ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT THE CORPSES FOUND YESTERDAY IN THE NEIGHBORING CITY?
I HEARD IT WAS EVEN ON THE INTERNATIONAL NEWS
THAT WAS ALSO VERY HORRIFYING
YOU KNOW WHAT? THE CORPSES WERE REALLY SHOCKING
THEY WERE IN PIECES AS IF THEY WERE TORN APART
HEY... SAIJYOU.
AH?
YEAH...
I REMEMBER THE CAUSE OF DEATH WAS ENTIRELY UNKNOWN
FEELS A LITTLE LIKE A SCARY MOVIE...
RIGHT, SAIJYOU?
YOU'RE OBSESSED WITH HER!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? STILL LOOKING AT SHIMATA EMI?
I ALREADY HOPPED ON THE LOVE BOAT.
OF COURSE
BUT I'VE ALWAYS FELT SHE'S A LITTLE STRANGE...
HER FACE IS PRETTY CUTE
SIGH... YOUR TASTES ARE REALLY WEIRD

SOME-THING HAS TO BE WRONG WHEN A GIRL HAS SCARS ALL OVER HER BODY!
SOME GIRLS SAW THEM IN THE CHANGING ROOM
FURTHER-MORE, WHEN THE OLD SCARS BEGIN TO HEAL, NEW ONES APPEAR
I'M TELLING YOU, SHE'S REALLY WEIRD!



SFX: <GRRR>

SFX: <WHISH>

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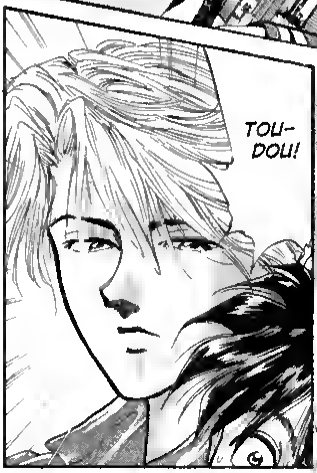


SFX: <MEEP>

Rebellious Art
Manga Art of Fallen Angels

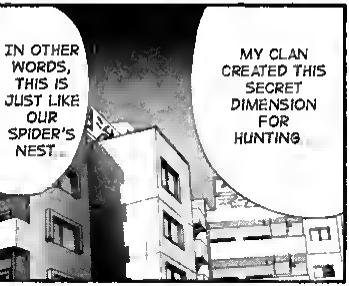
THIS GUY KNOWS SHIMATA?
HE'S MY CLASS-MATE...
YOU KNOW HIM?
THIS GUY WAS SE-CRETLY FOLLOW-ING YOU
BEFORE YOU MEAN YESTERDAY?
PFFT, HE IS THE ONE WHO'S SUSPICIOUS I THOUGHT HE WAS ONE OF THOSE GUYS FROM BEFORE...
ARE THEY TALK-ING ABOUT THE CASE OF THE TORN CORPSES?
BRUTALLY MURDERED? ND HE SAID YESTERDAY...
IF WE'RE NOT A LITTLE MORE CAUTIOUS, WE MAY ALSO BE BRUTALLY MUR-DERED NEXT TIME.
LAST TIME WE INTER-FERED WITH THEIR HUNTING
WHAT? YOU ARE STILL HERE?
YOU CAN GET THE HELL OUT OF HERE.
EXCUSE ME... WHAT ARE YOU GUYS TALK-ING ABOUT?
IF IT WON'T GIVE YOU ANY TROUBLE, CAN YOU EXPLAIN IT TO ME?
PLEASE?
WHAT? YOU WERE JUST THREATENING ME WITH A KNIFE! DO YOU THINK I'M JUST GONNA LET IT GO?
YOU SHOULD THANK GOD THAT I DIDN'T STAB YOU HURRY UP AND GET THE HELL AWAY
SWIPE

RebelliousArt
MangaArt's Fallen Angels

BUT I THINK YOU SHOULDN'T GET TOO CLOSE TO ME...
SORRY... EVEN THOUGH I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU WERE FOLLOWING ME...
WAIT... SAIJYOU-SAN
WHY... YOU LITTLE...
THA- THAT'S NOT TRUE... I DON'T CARE ABOUT THE RUMORS
I'M NOT A NORMAL PERSON...
YOU KNOW THE RUMORS ABOUT ME, RIGHT?
?
OH NO... SHIMATA!
HOW COULD THIS BE...
SO SHIMATA DOES... DOES HAVE SOME SECRETS...
OH NO... SAIJYOU-SAN, GET AWAY QUICKLY...
HURRY!
SFX (SHOCK)
IT'S THE OTHER KEKKAI!*
*KEKKAI (結界): A MAGICAL BARRIER.

UWAA!
YAHH!
UH!
AND THE GUST OF WIND AND WHITE SMOKE
WHAT'S HAPPENING... WHY DID THIS STUNNING FLASH OF LIGHT APPEAR...
!!!!
WHAT IN THE WORLD IS
GOING ON

!!!!
THE SKY...
TURNED BLACK?
BUT IT'S NOT ... NIGHT YET...
SORRY.
I DIDN'T WANT TO GET YOU INVOLVED IN THIS...



RebelliousArt
MangaArt's Fallen Angels

I'M SURE WE ARE BOTH DREAMING!
YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT REALLY WEIRD THINGS ALL OF A SUDDEN ARE YOU SICK?
SHI- SHI- MATA GET A HOLD OF YOUR- SELF
I'M NOT GOING TO FORCE YOU TO BELIEVE,
LOSE MY LIFE?
I SUPPOSE THAT'S TO BE EXPECTED
IT'S NOT WORKING HE'S NOT BELIEVING ME AT ALL
BUT PLEASE KEEP YOUR HEAD CLEAR LATER,
OR ELSE YOU WILL LOSE YOUR LIFE
BE CAREFUL. THEY ARE COMING!
RIGHT
HEY, KIDDO!
KIDDO
HE... HEY! CAN'T YOU GUYS EXPLAIN IT BETTER? I DON'T GET IT!
WELL, THAT'S TOO BAD
WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS
BECAUSE THOSE GUYS ARE HERE ALREADY
KRSH

RebelliousArt
MangaArt ♦ Fallen Angels

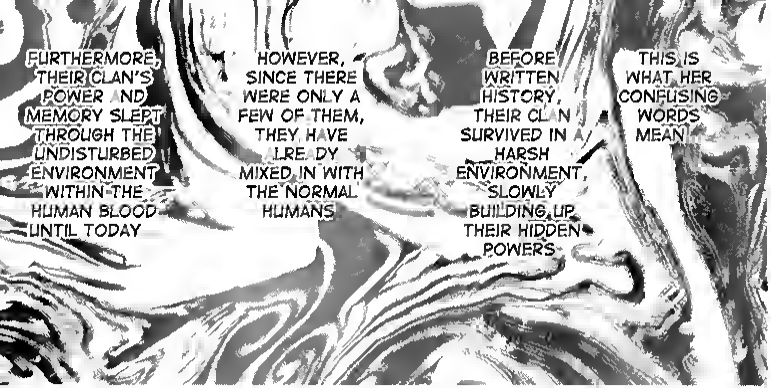
TSK, SORRY FOR THE LONG WAIT.
LOOKS LIKE YOU HAVE ANOTHER BUDDY TODAY...
LOOKS LIKE YOU GUYS WANT TO FINISH US OFF TODAY.
AS LONG AS YOU GUYS ARE IN THE WAY,
IT'S DIFFICULT FOR US TO HUNT SUCCESSFULLY
YOUR OBSERVATION SKILLS ARE QUITE KEEN.
BECAUSE OF YOU GUYS, WE WEREN'T ABLE TO CLEAN UP THE CORPSES YESTERDAY.
THANKS TO YOU, PEOPLE ARE SUSPICIOUS OF US, BUT WE WON'T MAKE THE SAME MISTAKE AGAIN.
EEEK!
HIS HAND IS GLOWING!
THESE GUYS... WHERE ARE THEY FROM? AND WHAT HE JUST SAID
IS HE SAYING THAT HE'S RESPONSIBLE FOR WHAT HAPPENED YESTERDAY?
IP
SAIJYOU-SAN, HURRY UP AND HIDE--
DON'T COME OUT, OR ELSE YOU MIGHT GET KILLED

QUIET!
I WILL LEAVE NO TRACES OF YOUR CORPSES!
HEH HEH DON'T WORRY
SFX (BOOM, BOOM)
SFX (ROAR)
WUAHHHH!
DIE!

SFX: <SLOOSH>
HYAAA!
SFX: <SHA>
<SFX: ROAR>
I FINALLY UNDERSTOOD SHIM_TA'S WORDS WHEN I WITNESSED THIS SCENE...
THIS IS JUST LIKE A NIGHTMARE...
THE WORLD I KNEW HAD ALREADY DISAPPEARED
BECAUSE NOW...

SFX: (THUD)
YOU CAN COME OUT NOW.
IT'S ALL FIN-ISHED.
THIS IS OUR REAL IDENTITY, THIS SPECIAL POWER THAT NO ONE ELSE POSSESSES...
SAIJYOU-SAN. YOU SAW EVERY-THING RIGHT?

I THINK IT'S BECAUSE OF SOME MUTANT CHANGE THAT OUR CLAN HAS BECOME LIKE THIS.
NOT ONLY CAN WE FREELY CONTROL THE POWER OF NATURE,
WE CAN ALSO USE THESE KEKKAI TO INCREASE OUR POWERS.
YOU... KILLED THEM?
IT'S THE ONLY WAY.
FOR PEOPLE LIKE THESE WHO LOST... THE "HUMAN" CON-SCIENCE.
I... I DON'T LIKE... SCARY MOVIES...
ESPE-CIALLY THE BLOOD SPLATTER-ING PARTS...


FURTHERMORE, THEIR CLAN'S POWER AND MEMORY SLEPT THROUGH THE UNDISTURBED ENVIRONMENT WITHIN THE HUMAN BLOOD UNTIL TODAY
HOWEVER, SINCE THERE WERE ONLY A FEW OF THEM, THEY HAVE LREADY MIXED IN WITH THE NORMAL HUMANS
BEFORE WRITTEN HISTORY, THEIR CLAN SURVIVED IN A HARSH ENVIRONMENT, SLOWLY BUILDING UP THEIR HIDDEN POWERS
THIS IS WHAT HER CONFUSING WORDS MEAN

THERE ARE ONLY A FEW OF US WHO CAN AWAKEN THESE POWERS UNDER SOME SITUATION AND PRESSURE
BUT I THINK MOST OF THEM HAVE DIED WITHOUT AWAKENING THE POWER WITHIN THEM...
I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY PEOPLE ARE LIKE US IN THIS WORLD,

JUST LIKE THOSE GUYS, IF WE DON'T DESTROY THEM, WE WON'T BE SURE WHAT TO EXPECT FROM THEM
THUD
WHEN THEY BECOME WILD, THEY ARE HELPLESS. THEY LOSE ALL OF THEIR HUMAN CHARACTERISTICS AND BECOME MONSTERS...
SOME OF US CAN LIVE IN PEACE LIKE ORDINARY PEOPLE SOME OF US, TOO DRAWN BY THE POWER, BEGIN TO GO WILD
THERE ARE TWO TYPES OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE THIS KIND OF POWER...
WHY IS IT LIKE THIS...? ALL THE SCARS ON SHIMATA ARE BECAUSE OF THIS...
TWITCH

EYAAAA!
!!!
RISE
SFX 〈AHHHH〉
SHIMATA!
I DIDN'T KILL HER?
WHAT ?
SFX 〈RUMBLE〉
SFX 〈CRACKLE〉

SFX: <WHOOSH>
Hah
Hah
Hah
Hah
GYAAA!
SFX: <FALL>
YOU... YOU ARE JUST LIKE US?
SAIJYOU-SAN, YOU...
WE HAVE ANOTHER FRIEND...
AH...
KRSCH
WHAT?
WHA... WHAT DID I...

EH.. WAIT... I REMEMBER
EVEN THOUGH I STILL HAVE A HUGE CRUSH ON SHIMATA...
SUDDENLY PULLING ME INTO THIS RIDICULOUS WORLD,,
SHOOT! DON'T KID ME!
I AM JUST AN ORDINARY PERSON!
ARGH NO NO!
EVERY TIME MY HEARTBEAT RUSHED BECAUSE OF SHIMATA, SOMETHING AROUND ME ALWAYS BROKE
IS THAT THE "POWER" THAT THEY WERE TALKING ABOUT..
AND I EVEN TURNED INTO A MONSTER
SFX <BAM!>
THEN I WILL HELP YOU TO NEVER SEE HER AGAIN!
SIGH, HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO FACE SHIMATA FROM NOW ON...
"I DON'T WANT ANY PART OF THIS ANYMORE"
COME... COME TO MY KEKKAI.

!!?
KEKKAI?
SHOCK
SFX: <DA>
HUH!
THERE ARE STILL LEFTOVERS?
SFX: <DASH>
UGH!
SFX: <CRASH>
SFX: <GUH>
HAH!
HAH!
UWAAAAAA!
UUU...
SFX: <UUUUU...>

I AM NOT A MONSTER LIKE YOU GUYS!
NO... I AM NOT...
YOU WERE JUST AWAKENED, SO YOU DON'T KNOW HOW TO USE YOUR POWERS?
WHAT'S WRONG?
BECAUSE OF YOU, I AM THE ONLY ONE LEFT FROM MY SMALL GROUP OF FRIENDS
AND NOW I'M GOING TO KILL ALL OF YOU, JUST LIKE YOU TRIED.
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
CRASH
SHI-MATA!
DIE!
SAI-JYOU-SAN!

SFX: <DUN...>
SINCE IT SAVES ME TIME TO FIND YOU.
YOU FOUND ME FAST, BUT THAT'S OKAY.
SHI-MATA!
HEY... QUICK! RUN! SAIJYOU-SAN!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? WE ARE GOING TOGETHER, OR ELSE HE WILL KILL YOU!
THE TWO OF YOU WILL BE LOVERS IN HELL!
SHE WAS HIT BADLY BY ME, DO YOU THINK SHE CAN STILL MOVE?
SFX: <CRACKLE>
SFX: <WHOMP>
EEYAAA!
SFX: <CRAP>
WAAAA!
SFX: <CRAP>

WHEN SHIMATA'S BODY IS IN MY ARMS, IT LOOKS VERY SMALL.
WU...
SHIMATA! ARE YOU OKAY?
EH...
SHA
SHA
UH...
FOR A LONG TIME, DID SHE ALWAYS USE SUCH SMALL HANDS, SUCH A FRAGILE BODY TO FIGHT WITH THOSE GUYS--?
OH... RIGHT. SHE IS JUST AN ORDINARY GIRL..
LET'S RUN TO-- GETHER!
I AM NOT GOING TO LET YOU FIGHT THOSE MONSTERS ANYMORE!
HURRY, RUN I CAN TAKE CARE OF THAT GUY
BECAUSE, SHIMATA, YOU...
HUH?
I DON'T CARE ABOUT ALL THAT! I WILL NOT LET YOU FACE ALL THOSE DANGERS ANYMORE!
NO...
I... LIKE...
ONLY PEOPLE WHO INHERITED OUR BLOOD CAN DEFEAT THEM... BESIDES, THAT IS ALSO MY RESPONSIBILITY.

DIE!
GO VISIT YOUR FRIENDS IN HELL!
SFX: <LUNGE>
SFX: <KABOOM!>
!!!!
YOU'RE THE ONE GOING TO HELL!
UWAAAAAAAAAA!
SFX: <PEEL>
SFX: <UPPER>
SFX: <SLAM>
SFX: <SLAM>
SFX:

LOOKS LIKE I MADE IT JUST IN TIME
TOU-DOU!
THANK GOD YOU'RE IN TIME
WE'RE SAVED
THAT WAS REALLY COOL, HUH?
AG
GUAAA
SFX: <COLLAPSE>
SFX: <WISH>
GUAAAAA!
SFX: <CRACKLE>
SFX: <CRACKLE>
UWA!
IF I AM GOING TO DIE...
I WILL TAKE YOU WITH ME!
!!!

!?
DON'T YOU GET TOO FULL OF YOUR-SELF, MORON!
SAI-JYOU-SAN...
DIE BY THE HANDS OF YOU MONSTERS!
EVEN IF THIS WORLD WILL BECOME UPSIDE-DOWN, I WILL NOT LET SHI-MATA OR ANYONE...
YOU ...
ASS-
HOLE!!
SFX (DON)
AHHHHHHHHHHH!
AH
AH
SFX (ZZZZZZ)

SFX: <BOOM>

!!!

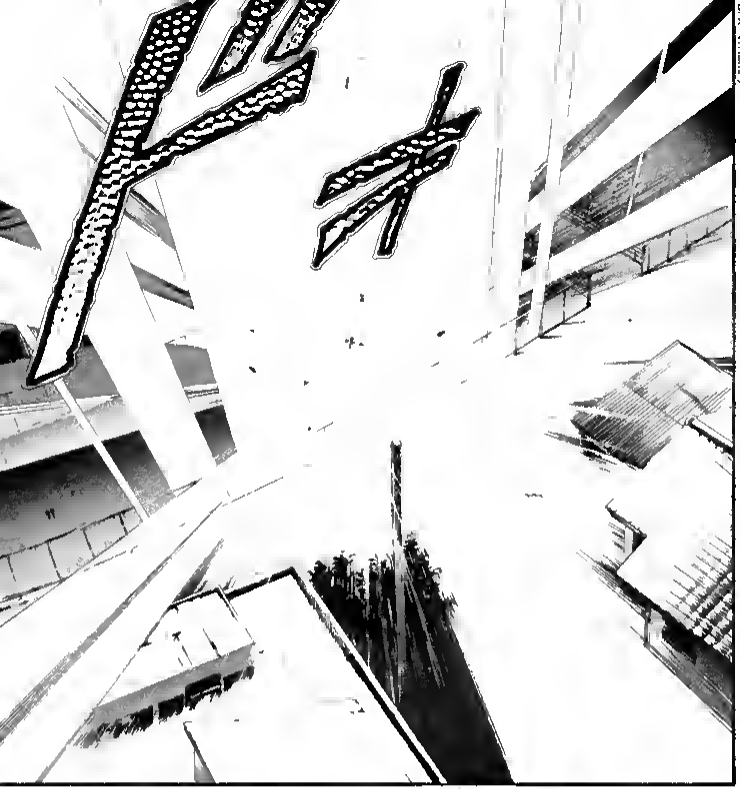
!!

AH!

AH!

AHHHHHHHHH!!

SFX: <ROAR>



SFX <PSHHHH>

STAG GER

SFX <SPLASH>

BUT IT'S OKAY, ANYTHING IS FINE...

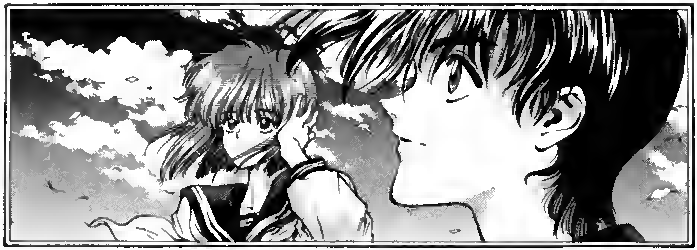
THAT I AM NOT A NORMAL HUMAN ANYMORE ...

ONLY THEN DID I FEEL...

AS LONG AS SHIMATA AND I...
AND EVERY-ONE ELSE IS SAFE, IT WILL BE FINE.
EVEN WHEN YOUR POWERS ARE AWAKENED, YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE AFRAID...
YOU WILL SOON LEARN HOW TO CON-TROL IT...
SO WHAT NOW?
WHAT DO YOU HAVE PLANNED FROM NOW ON?
I WON'T FORCE YOU TO COME WITH US.
THIS IS NOT A WORLD OF LIFE AND DEATH,
IF YOU DON'T WANT TO BE IN-VOLVED IN IT, IT'S OKAY.
.....

TO FIGHT THE MONSTERS...
EVEN THOUGH I DON'T KNOW HOW I CAN HELP,
COUNT ME IN. I ALSO WANT TO GO WITH YOU
BESIDES,
SINCE I AM ALREADY LIKE THIS, HOW CAN I PRETEND NOT TO CARE...
HEY...
HOW CAN I LEAVE HER ALONE IN SUCH A DANGEROUS SITUATION...
THANK YOU SAIJYOU-SAN
HEY
WHO JUST SAVED YOUR LIFE HERE?
IF YOU DON'T GET IN THE WAY, I WON'T OPPOSE...
HUH? ME?
WHAT DID I SAY...
WHAT WERE YOU GOING TO SAY TO ME?
BACK THEN...
SAI-JYOU-SAN...
EVEN THOUGH THINGS SEEMED MORE DIFFICULT THAN I IMAGINED,
THAT DAY...
I BECAME THE WARRIOR.
COME ON, JUST THEN!
I FOR-GOT
HAHA ...
HUH?
THINGS GOTTA BE WHAT THEY GOTTA BE, RIGHT?

BLACK CITY (END)



BLACK CITY

This work was my entry for the '92 January edition of the H*S award, and it was thanks to it that I was able to join JUMP. If this work didn't exist, there would not be a me of today (not that the me of today is all that impressive!).

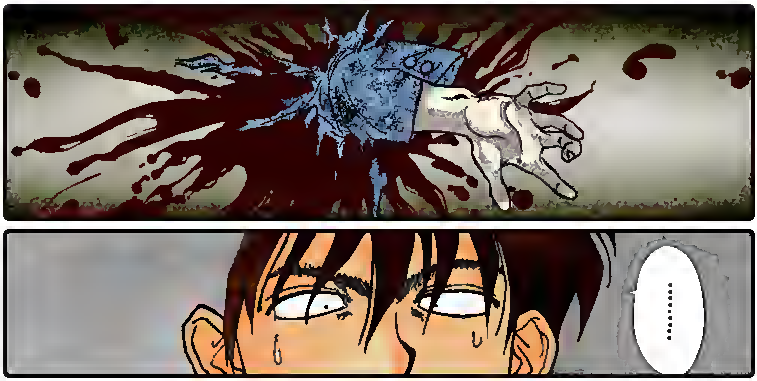
It's a work of that much importance. Out of all my works, it's the one work that received the most passionate response from readers. What surprised me was that before the official publication of this work, some readers who have only read a preview for the H*S award on the magazine decided it was enough for them to send in support letters to the editorial department (actually, when I saw that the magazine used 2 pages to review this work, I got a little panicky).

Thanks to the readers, even the editorial department was very surprised by the popularity of this work. After this, the editorial department had a 180-degrees change of attitude, which sticks in my memory even to this day (so this is the world of adults.....).

Even though most readers who have read this will already know (?), the most embarrassing thing about this is that the story is so disorganized and childish - but some readers even said they wanted to see a sequel to this story. At the moment, I don't plan on drawing a sequel, but I really want to draw a similar story in the future, so when that comes, everyone please support it. As for the art, even though I thought that the quality of this work should be the best among all my others, but looking back, I still feel there's a lot that can be improved in it (does this mean my level has improved a bit?).

That's right, what's most different in this work compared to my present work is the art style. Even though I haven't abandoned the art style from before, but because there's a deadline nowadays, there's no way I can draw pictures like these. Maybe one day when my drawing speed has gone up, my art style will go back to what it looked like before. Please look forward to that day slowly arriving!

RebelliousArt
MangaArt's Fallen Angels



BLACK CITY

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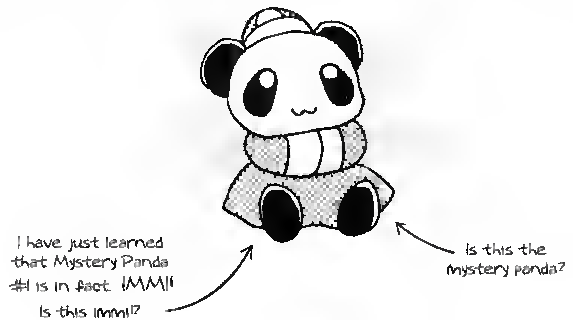
Quality checkers: Lord392 & (super) immi



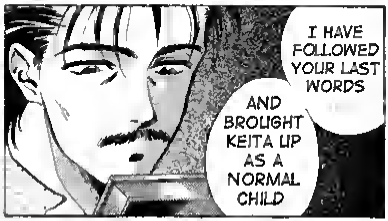
RebelliousArt
MangaArt's Fallen Angels

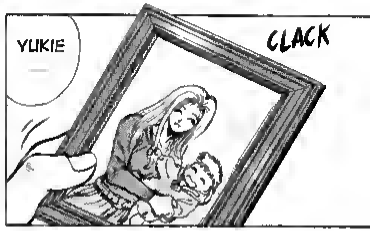
TWO KEITA'S
I DON'T KNOW WHEN IT STARTED, BUT MY FAMILY HAS BEEN ASSASSINS FOR GENERATIONS.
AND IN OUR BLOOD RUNS THE NATURAL-BORN TALENT OF A KILLER.
MY NAME IS TAKIZAWA KEIICHIROU.
IN HONG KONG'S UNDERGROUND WORLD, I AM SAID TO BE THE MASTER ASSASSIN.
HOWEVER TEN YEARS AGO I TURNED OVER A NEW LEAF AND DESERTED MY PROFESSION.
BECAUSE MY WIFE DIED FROM HER INVOLVEMENT IN IT.
YUKIE!
FROM THE TIME WE WERE MARRIED, I HAVE ALREADY PREPARED MYSELF FOR THIS.....
BUT KEITA HAS JUST BEEN BORN...
I DON'T WANT HIM TO TURN INTO A MURDERER
PLEASE LET HIM BE A NORMAL CHILD.
THESE WERE HER LAST WORDS
MY DEAREST
AND WHATEVER IT IS, I CAN'T TURN MY BACK ON MY WIFE'S LAST WORDS.

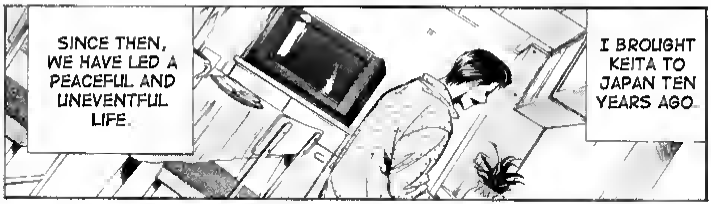
TWO KEITA'S

DAD, BREAKFAST IS READY!
IT'S ALL RIGHT FOR YOU AS A NOVELIST TO LAZE AROUND A BIT,
BUT I NEED TO GO TO SCHOOL!
GOOD MORNING!
HURRY UP AND GET OUT OF BED!
ええええ!
ギュっ
SFX (GRAB)
PLEASE HELP ME OUT!
THIS IS REALLY DISGUSTING
DAD IS VERY HAPPY
YOU'RE GROWING MORE AND MORE LIKE YOUR MOTHER, KEITA
HAS YOUR BRAIN BEEN BURNT?
AND IT SUITS YOU
OH, DAD SUDDENLY WANTED A DAUGHTER
I ASKED YOU TO BUY ME PAJAMAS, YET YOU BOUGHT A NIGHTGOWN!
ALSO, WHAT IS THIS THING?
I'M GOING TO BE LATE AGAIN!
MAH, IT'S EIGHT O'CLOCK ALREADY!
REALLY, DAD, YOU'RE ALWAYS BEHAVING LIKE THAT
I'M GOING NOW!

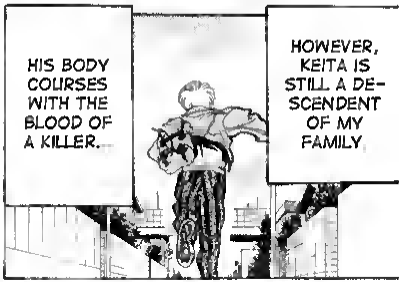
I MUST HAVE INHERITED MY DOUBLE PERSONALITY FROM DAD.
I CAN'T STAND HIM. WAS HE REALLY AN ASSASSIN BEFORE?


I HAVE FOLLOWED YOUR LAST WORDS
AND BROUGHT KEITA UP AS A NORMAL CHILD


YUKIE
CLACK

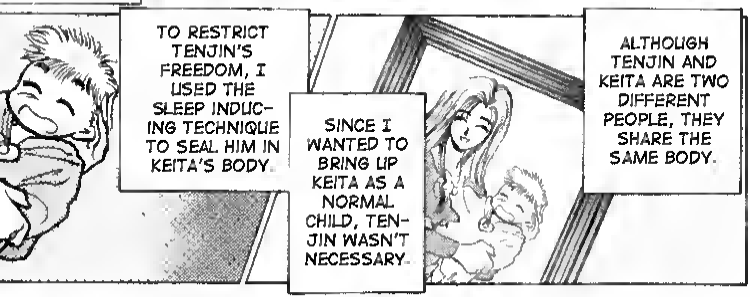

SINCE THEN, WE HAVE LED A PEACEFUL AND UNEVENTFUL LIFE.
I BROUGHT KEITA TO JAPAN TEN YEARS AGO.

THE KILLING ABILITY HASN'T BEEN PASSED TO HIM DIRECTLY,
BUT IN HIS BODY LIVES A SECONDARY KILLER PERSONALITY.

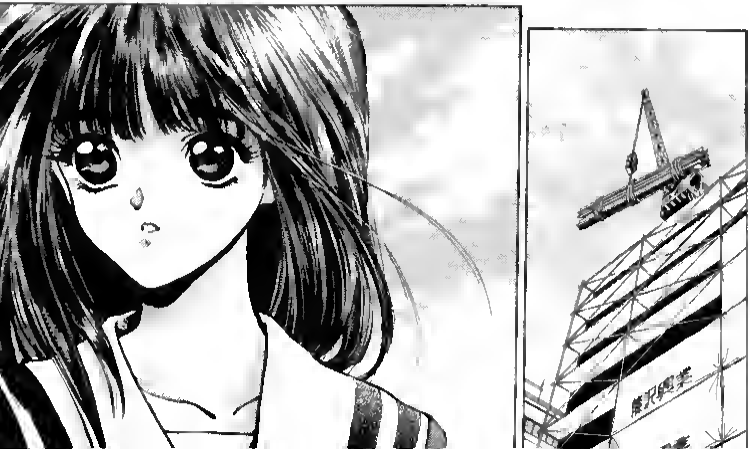

HIS BODY COURSES WITH THE BLOOD OF A KILLER.
HOWEVER, KEITA IS STILL A DESCENDENT OF MY FAMILY

SFX <THUD THUD THUD>
BUT IT HASN'T BEEN PASSED TO HIM DIRECTLY YET.

I NAMED HIS OTHER PERSONALITY "TENJIN."
IN OTHER WORDS, HE WAS BORN WITH HIS DOUBLE PERSONALITY.


TO RESTRICT TENJIN'S FREEDOM, I USED THE SLEEP INDUCING TECHNIQUE TO SEAL HIM IN KEITA'S BODY.
SINCE I WANTED TO BRING UP KEITA AS A NORMAL CHILD, TENJIN WASN'T NECESSARY.
ALTHOUGH TENJIN AND KEITA ARE TWO DIFFERENT PEOPLE, THEY SHARE THE SAME BODY.

EXCEPT HIS OBSESSION WITH CLEANLINESS IS A BIT TOO SEVERE
I really want him to wear this
SIGH
NOW KEITA IS A GOOD KID



SFX: (CRASH)
MISS, DANGER!
SFX: (THUD THUD THUD)
WHAT'S DANGER-OUS?
WHAT?
DAN-GER!
AHHHH!
SFX: (KABOOM)
!!!
SFX (SURPRISE)
WHAT IS THIS CHILD DOING?
HEY ...
SFX: (WHOOSH)

OH, SO IT'S LIKE THIS...
HUH?
DID ANYONE GET HURT?
HOW DID THAT BEAM FALL DOWN?
BECAUSE I CAN AUTO-MATICALLY SENSE DANGER...
IT'S A GOOD THING I WAS PASSING BY...
SFX: (SHOCK)
TENJIN!
SHUT UP! IT'S ALL THANKS TO MY KILLER'S INTUITION!
AH... IT'S FINE NOW!
SHINE
AH... AH...
SHAKE
THE GUY CALLED TENJIN...
IS A KILLER WHO LIVES IN MY BODY.
OH GOD, THIS KID IS QUITE CUTE.
YES, I KNOW! KEEP QUIET!
SHEESH...
SFX: (MISC)

Hm—
THAT CHILD IS TRULY PRETTY, AND HE EXUDES INNOCENCE
DON'T TELL ME HE'S AN ANGEL FALLEN TO EARTH!
ER... NOTHING
EH!
WHAT?
unknowingly mesmerized
?
BIG SISTER WILL HAVE TO BE MORE CAREFUL IN THE FUTURE
THANKS FOR SAVING ME EARLIER
THIS WAS HOW I MET AYA-CHAN.
HEY! TAKIZAWA!
BYE EVERYONE!
SEE YOU TOMORROW KEITA!
BYE TAKIZAWA!
ドカッ
At the moment of this 3rd year ritual
SFX: <CHATTER>
SFX: <SMACK>

WE WILL HAVE TO TEACH YOU A LESSON TODAY.
YOU ARE REALLY ARROGANT.
HEH HEH
IT HURTS!
BAM
JUST BECAUSE SOME GIRL HAS SHOWN INTEREST IN YOU DOESN'T MEAN YOU CAN GET COCKY.
SFX: <GULP>
SH... SHUT UP!
WHY DIDN'T YOU SWITCH WITH ME WHEN I ASKED YOU TO?
BEING LIKED IS ALSO QUITE PAINFUL.
SFX <GRAB>
SFX <HORRIBLE>
HEY!
WAA AH!
SFX <SHOCK>
OH... THIS MORNING'S...
EH?
SO YOU'RE THE KID FROM THIS MORNING...
WHY WOULD I WANT TO SWITCH WITH YOU!?
AND THEY'RE NOT EVEN SCARY!

BOYS CAN'T BEHAVE LIKE THIS IF YOU'RE BEING BULLIED, YOU SHOULD FIGHT BACK
THIS IS NORMAL? DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE ALWAYS BEING BULLIED?
IT'S ALL RIGHT IT'S NO BIG DEAL
NEVER MIND THIS IS NORMAL
WHAT? YOU WERE BULLIED?
Why are you bruised all over?
OH ER...
I DISLIKE ARGUING AND VIOLENCE THE MOST.
ANYWAY, I THINK HURTING OTHERS ISN'T GOOD.
THAT THAT'S NOT NICE!
SPK (WHOMP)
ME?
BIG SISTER, YOU ARE REALLY PRETTY!
YOU LOOK LIKE MY MOTHER
AND HIS WORDS ARE THOSE OF AN ANGEL'S!
OH! HE'S SO MESMERIZING!
I UNCONSCIOUSLY SO SORRY!
TWITCH GROAN TWITCH
SPK (THUMP)

HAHA. THIS BIG SISTER IS VERY FUNNY.
IT'S ALL RIGHT.
SO YOUR MOTHER HAS PASSED AWAY?
YES, SO ALL THE HOUSEHOLD CHORES ARE DONE BY ME.
BUT YOUR FATHER IS A NOVELIST. THAT SOUNDS PRETTY COOL.
NON-SENSE!
HE'S JUST A WEIRD LAZY BUM.
SFX (SLURRRGE)
SOME-ONE IS STALK-ING YOU.
!!
STRANGE...
JUST NOW, IT SEEMED LIKE SOME-ONE WAS FOLLOWING US.
REALLY? HOW SCARY.
WHAT'S WRONG?
!!
WHAT THE HELL?
THERE'S NO ONE HERE!
I DIDN'T LIE TO YOU.
SFX (JERK)

"NOTE: THE CHARACTER 天 (TEN) IN 天人 (TENJIN) MEANS "SKY."
SKY?
OH NO!
SFX: (GASP)
WELL, BECAUSE TENJIN CAN .
BUT HOW DID YOU KNOW?
IT WAS LIKE THAT THIS MORNING TOO.
I DIDN'T SAY ANY-THING.
WHAT SKY ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
IF YOU KNEW ABOUT IT, YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO BE NEAR ME.
SO I CAN NEVER TALK ABOUT IT.
NO-NO WAY!
COME ON, WHY DON'T YOU TELL BIG SISTER?
SOME-ONE SEEMS TO KNOW...
Come on, come on
コチョ
コチョ
SFX: (TICKLE)
MY DAD WAS A POLICEMAN ...
SO I'VE INHERITED HIS INTER-ROGATION HABIT.
SORRY...

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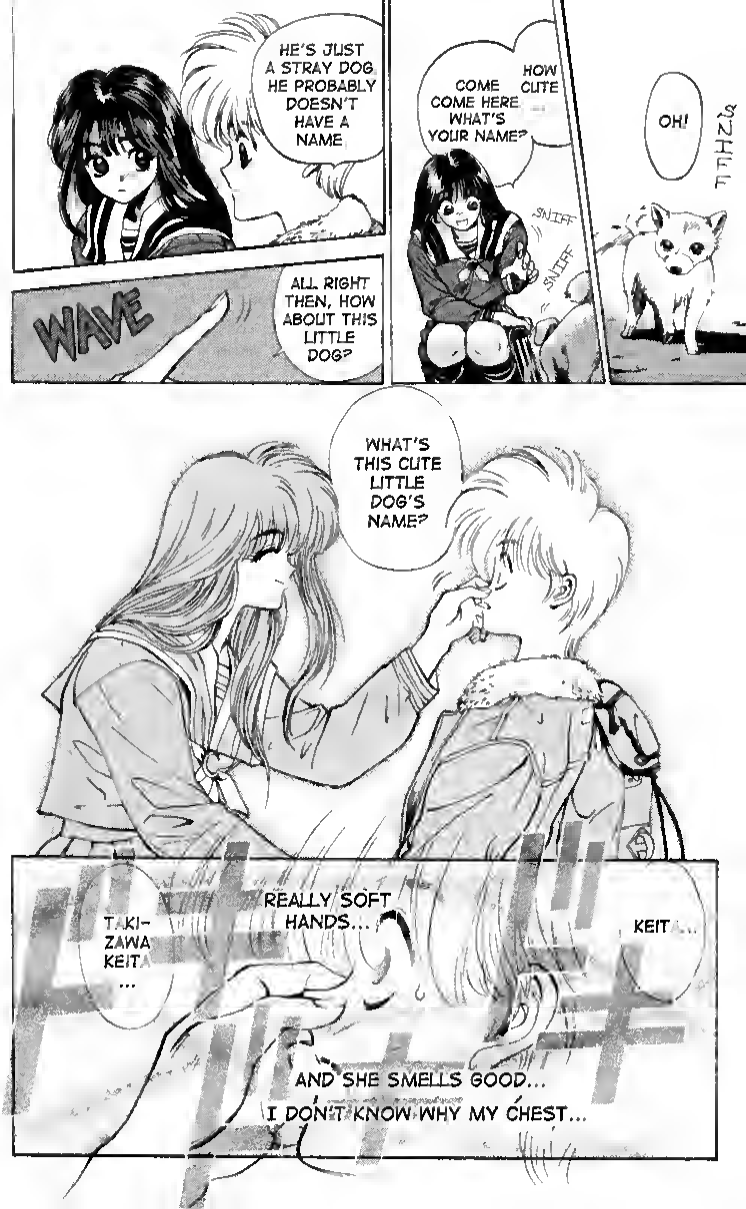
THEY DIED IN A CAR CRASH A MONTH AGO.
MY MOM AND DAD HAVE BOTH PASSED AWAY...
!!
YES... WHEN HE WAS STILL ALIVE
UNEASY
PO... POLICE?
unconsciously starts becoming anxious
IT'S ALL RIGHT... I CAN'T BE SAD ALL THE TIME
YOU POOR THING...
SO, BIG SISTER, YOU ARE LIVING ALONE NOW?
JUST BEFORE HE DIED, HE SAID HE WAS ON THE VERGE OF SOLVING A LARGE CASE
MY DAD HAS A STRONG SENSE OF JUSTICE.
THAT WAY, YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE ALL ALONE
I'LL BE YOUR LITTLE BROTHER.
SFX (THUMP)
SFX (EMBRACE)
だきっ
NO WAY! I HAVE NO RESISTANCE AGAINST THIS KIND OF CHILD
THANK YOU.
I'LL LOOK FOR YOU EVERY DAY
OH MY GOODNESS, THIS CHILD IS SO SWEET
SO YOU MUST KEEP UP YOUR SPIRITS


HE'S JUST A STRAY DOG. HE PROBABLY DOESN'T HAVE A NAME
WAVE
ALL RIGHT THEN, HOW ABOUT THIS LITTLE DOG?
HOW CUTE
COME COME HERE... WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
SNIFF
SNIFF
OH!
WHAT'S THIS CUTE LITTLE DOG'S NAME?
TAKI-ZAWA KEITA ...
REALLY SOFT HANDS...
KEITA...
AND SHE SMELLS GOOD...
I DON'T KNOW WHY MY CHEST...

YOU SHOULD DARE TO WEAR THIS NIGHTGOWN...
SCRAPE
SCRAPE
BUSH
WELL, IF DAD CAN WEAR THIS...
KEITA, YOU'RE BACK!
SFX: <TADA!>
Because he has been ignored—he starts feeling embarassed
KEITA...
FROM THAT DAY ON, WE FREQUENTLY MET UP TO CHAT,
HER NAME IS IGARASHI AYA, AND SHE'S A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT...
AND I LIKED AYA-CHAN MORE AND MORE

HE SAID THAT WHEN WE'RE WITH AYA-CHAN, SOMEONE'S ALWAYS WATCHING US.
YES, TENJIN SAID SO ..
BEING STALKED ?
Now isn't the time for jokes!
FATHER !
DID SEEING A PRETTY YOUNG-STER CAUSE SOMEONE TO LOSE CON-TROL?
SFX: (SLAM!)
TENJIN IS A PSYCHO-PATHIC KILLER!
HOW CAN I DO THAT!?
I...
ALL RIGHT— IF SOMETHING WERE TO HAPPEN, WOULDN'T CHANG-ING INTO TENJIN SOLVE THE PROB-LEM?
IF WE LET HIM COME OUT, HE'LL MESS THINGS UP!
SFX: (BANG!)
SO YOU PLAN TO BE AFRAID OF TENJIN FOREVER?
YOU'RE SO NOISY SHUT UP!
HOW DARE YOU, YOU USELESS FELLOW.
ANYWAY, IF SOMETHING WERE TO HAPPEN, I MIGHT JUST DISAPPEAR...
IF THAT'S THE CASE—

THE PROBLEM IS...
SFX: (SWISH)
HOW ARE YOU GOING TO USE IT?
I KNOW YOU DON'T LIKE HIM...
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
BUT SINCE YOU'RE A CHILD OF MY FAMILY, TENJIN AND HIS ABILITIES WILL NEVER DISAPPEAR...
SFX (SLICE)
WHEN YOU ARE IN NEED, YOU CAN CALL TENJIN OUT TO HELP.
SO I'LL HAVE TO TEACH YOU HOW TO USE IT NOW
SOONER OR LATER, YOU WILL NEED TO USE HIS STRENGTH...
IF THAT'S THE CASE...
I MIGHT NEVER CHANGE BACK
PLEASE DON'T TAKE THIS MATTER SO LIGHTLY.
THEN IT'S MY RESPONSIBILITY TO CHANGE YOU BACK TO THE WAY YOU WERE.
Oh really—!
YO!
I CAN NEVER SEE AYA-CHAN AGAIN

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MangaA (s fallen Angels

NEVER WOULD I HAVE THOUGHT THAT "THAT MOMENT,"
WOULD SUDDENLY HAPPEN THE NEXT DAY...
THAT DAY, TENJIN DIDN'T APPEAR AT ALL. I SHOULD HAVE NOTICED THAT EARLIER
MY HOME IS ON THE 5TH FLOOR OF THAT BUILDING
SFX: <CLACK>
ガチャッ
!!!
COME WITH US!
ARE YOU IGA-RASHI'S DAUGH-TER?

DON'T TELL ME... THESE WERE THE GUYS WHO HAVE BEEN FOLLOWING US ALL ALONG...
WHO ARE YOU?
SFX: <TH-UD>
TENJIN! WHY DIDN'T YOU WARN ME?
AYA-CHAN!
SFX: <THRUST>
SHUT UP AND COME WITH US.
!!
SFX: <GRAB>
KEITA!
ドドド

OH! AYA-CHAN!
EH...
AYA-CHAN!
WHERE ARE WE...
EH KEITA?
THANK GOOD-NESS...
HAVE YOU AWAK-ENED?
!!!

SFX: <LOOM>

WE ARE THE NEWLY FORMED EAST ASIAN CHINESE SECT... SPECIALIZING IN TRAFFICKING DRUGS...
YOUR FATHER KNEW US VERY WELL.
NOT COUNTING ON SO MANY OF THESE RATS BOTHERING US.
WE WERE ORIGINALLY PLANNING ON MAKING A BIG PROFIT IN JAPAN,

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MangaArt's Fallen Angels

HOW CAN THAT BE . DAD WAS IN A CAR ACCIDENT
!!
HE KNEW TOO MUCH ABOUT OUR AFFAIRS
SO, AYA-CHAN'S DAD WAS...
IT WAS EASY TO MAKE IT SEEM LIKE AN ACCIDENT
HOW CAN THAT BE...
OF COURSE, WE'D ALREADY SEARCHED YOUR HOME
IT WAS A PITY WE COULDN'T FIND THE RECORDS HE KEPT
MOM AND DAD WERE..
IF THAT WERE HANDED TO THE JAPANESE POLICE, WE'D BE IN TROUBLE.
THAT ITEM WAS INDEED ON YOU.
NO, NO, NO. WE GUESSED CORRECT-LY.
I WOULDN'T HAVE THAT SORT OF THING ON ME.
WE FINALLY CAME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT THE ITEM WAS ON YOUR BODY.
SFX: (JINGLE)

?
DAD GAVE ME THAT NECKLACE PENDANT BEFORE HE DIED
THAT!
NOW THIS THING HAS NO VALUE
IT CONTAINS INFORMATION ON OUR COMMUNICA-TIONS
SFX: <CLACK>
!!
WAHH!
WAHH!
SFX: <THUD>
RUN QUICKLY, KEITA!
SFX: <DASH>
STOP, LITTLE DEVIL!
THE SAME GOES FOR YOU...
THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERA-TION.

LETTING THE LITTLE DEVIL ESCAPE INSTEAD OF YOURSELF? YOU ARE INDEED THE POLICEMAN'S DAUGHTER.
BUT I HATE PEOPLE LIKE YOU,
PEOPLE WHO THINK THEY'RE KIND-HEARTED, THE MOST.
SFX: (RUNNING)
WHAT SHOULD I DO...
AYA-CHAN
THIS IS OUR MODUS OPERANDI. HAHAHAHA ...
I WANT TO STRANGLE HIM IN FRONT OF HER
BRING THE KID OVER HERE
!!
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU CAN DO NOW? WATCH AYA-CHAN DIE?
DO YOU STILL HAVE TIME TO ARGUE?
TENJIN? WHY ONLY NOW DO YOU...
DO YOU WANT MY HELP?
I ALREADY SAID I WANT TO HELP YOU.
SFX: (SHOCK)
I WILL
IF I LET YOU HAVE MY BODY, I...
NO... NO, I CAN'T...
SFX: (SURPRISE)

AYA-CHAN...
SFX: <TICKLE>
SFX: <EMERGE>
NOW I...
DRIFT
REALLY NEED TENJIN'S STRENGTH...
DRIFT
TENJIN IS YOUR STRENGTH
THE ONLY QUESTION IS HOW YOU WANT TO USE IT
DO ANYTHING
I CAN'T
DRIFT
SO LONG AS I CAN SAVE AYA-CHAN.
EVEN IF I CAN'T RETURN TO NORMAL, IT DOESN'T MATTER.
IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT I TURN INTO...!
SFX: <ROAR>

SFX (BAM)
TEN-
JIN!
FOUND HIM. HERE!
WHAT'S THE MATTER? SCARED UNTIL YOU CAN'T MOVE?
HA ...
I'VE FINALLY ...
TWITCH
HA HA HA HA !!
TWITCH
I'VE FINALLY GOTTEN BACK MY BODY!
SFX (OOO)
SFX (WHOOO)

I'M FINALLY FREE!
TEN-JIN!
KEITA ...
SO I WAS RIGHT NOT TO HAVE WARNED YOU OF DANGER...
I FINALLY HAVE THE CHANCE TO CHANGE AROUND!
SO YOU HAD IT ALL PLANNED OUT! YOU BASTARD!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
THIS IS CALLED BEING SMART

GOSH... UNCLES
I'LL GO OVER RIGHT AWAY...
SHOULDN'T YOU COME HERE QUIETLY?
LITTLE DEVIL, WHAT ARE YOU MUTTERING ABOUT?
SFX: (SAK)
SFX: <TOUCH>
SFX: (WHAM, WHAM)
STINKER, WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?

SFX <GUAA!
SFX <CRUNCH>
AAAARRRRRGGGHHHHH!
SFX <KRAK>
WHAT... WHAT DID YOU DO?
AAAAR-RRRRG-GGGHH-HHH!
SFX <BURST>
WE ALSO EACH HAVE OUR OWN SPECIAL KILLING TECHNIQUE
OUR FAMILY DOESN'T HAVE JUST THE KILLING ABILITY...
WAAAAAH!
IF I'D HIT THEIR NECKS... IT'D HAVE BEEN IMMEDIATE DEATH...
AS FOR MYSELF, I GUESS I'M GOOD AT THE LONG-BREADTH TECHNIQUE
MY DAD SPECIALIZED IN THE SLEEP-INDUCING SKILL

SFX: 〈EXTEND〉
I ONLY HAVE TO TOUCH LIGHTLY, AND YOUR BONE WILL BREAK INTO PIECES!
DO YOU STILL WANT AN-OTHER GO?
DAMN... WHAT DID YOU DO?
SFX: 〈WAIL〉
SFX: 〈GUA〉
YOU LITTLE PIECE OF SHIT!
YOU GUYS DON'T KNOW WHEN TO STOP.
I'M REAL-LY HAP-PY.
AIR BREAK, BONE BREAK!
SFX: 〈BOOM〉

SFX (STAGGER)
!!!
BOSS
HOW DID THIS HAPPEN?
SFX (SPLAT)
SFX (TAP)
DON'T TELL ME YOU KILLED HIM?
I CAN'T BE BOTHERED KILLING SMALL FRY
BUT I BROKE THEIR HANDS, WHICH IS NOT TOO FAR FROM KILLING THEM.
SHOULD I USE SAND BLAST?
KA
KA
KA
OR EARTH-SHATTERING SLICDE...
PLEASE DON'T THINK ABOUT THIS NOW! PLEASE HURRY UP AND SAVE AYA-CHAN!
!?
KEITA!
IDIOT! FOR SOMEONE AS GOOD AS ME,
TO SHOW SOMETHING UNSTYLISH IS TOO LOW.
THIS... THIS DEVIL!
WHAT HAPPENED? HE DOESN'T LOOK THE SAME AS BEFORE.
DID THIS KID REALLY FIGHT SO MANY PEOPLE?

WAH!
HNG!
SFX <PING>
PUNK!
SFX <BANG, BANG>
BASTARD, DON'T SUDDENLY SHOOT AT ME!
SFX <THROW>
SFX <THAWP>
AR RGG GG GG!

GUAHAHHHH!
SFX: (BANG)
SFX: (KABOOM)
NO!
KEITA?
IF ANYTHING HAPPENED TO YOU, KEITA WILL DEFINITELY NAG ME TO DEATH.
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, AYA?
IT WAS NO BIG DEAL.
CHI!

WHO... ARE...
FROM NOW ON, I'M KEITA.
SORRY, I'M KEEPING THIS WOMAN.
WHAT... WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
HEHEH
IDIOT. IT'S A WASTE GIVING YOU HER.
SFX: <WHOOSH>
DON'T DO THAT! TENJIN!
I'M GOING TO KILL YOU!
PUNK!
SFX: <JERK>
!!!
OH MY GOD... YOU'RE STILL NOT DEAD YET.
KEITA!

IT'S ALL RIGHT... I'LL NEVER LET MY WOMAN GET HURT...
SFX: <OOOO>
LOOKS LIKE IF I DON'T KILL YOU...
IT WILL BE TROUBLE-SOME LATER...
AHHHH!
SHUT UP! NO ONE WILL LISTEN TO YOUR ORDERS!
PLEASE DON'T KILL PEOPLE!
SFX: <GRAB>
SFX: <GUA>
!!
KEITA, DANGER!

DAMMIT..
WHY DID YOU RUN OVER HERE WHEN YOU WEREN'T IN DAN-GER?
STUPID ...
SFX <SLICE>
SFX <STRIKE>
SFX <STAB>
SFX <BURST>
AAAAAAAA!

DARN... I ALMOST KILLED HIM.
THROB
CRUNCH
OH WELL. ANYWAY, HIS RIGHT HAND IS GONE NOW.
IN THE MAFIA, IT'S AS GOOD AS BEING DEAD.
CLACK
LOOKS LIKE I ARRIVED TOO LATE.
DAD!

DAZED
AH!
SHE FAINTED!
DAMN OLD MAN! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
SERVES HER RIGHT FOR TAKING THINGS INTO HER OWN HANDS...
YOU'D BETTER LOOK AT THAT GIRL
I FEEL SHE'S LIKE A MOTHER ...
NO WONDER KEITA LIKED HER SO MUCH...
WHY DID YOU GO OUT OF YOUR WAY TO LET THEM LIVE?
BUT, IT WAS OBVIOUS YOU COULD HAVE KILLED THEM AT THE LIFT OF A HAND.
ANYWAY, THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT...
I CAN KILL THEM ANYTIME.
SO I'VE PUT A DEVICE IN YOUR CLOTHES
I MINDED WHAT YOU SAID YESTERDAY,
I NEVER THOUGHT HE'D LET YOU LOOSE SO QUICKLY.

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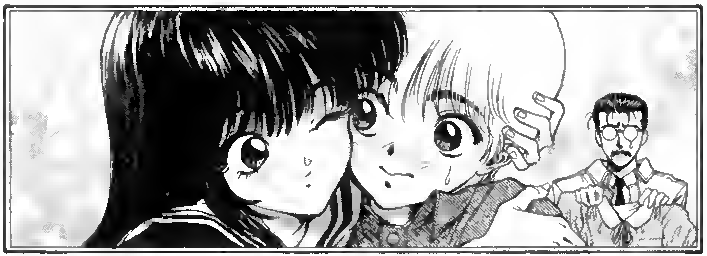
NOW EVERYTHING HAS TO OBEY ME!
AS LONG AS I HAVE THIS BODY AND ABILITY, I CAN DO ANYTHING!
SFX: AHHHHH
SFX: STARE
I MUST HAVE MY REVENGE ON YOU!
BUT BEFORE THAT...
LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE UNDER-ESTIMATED ME.
SFX: SWISH
Fu Fu
GUH!
EVEN IF I'VE RETIRED, I CAN'T LOSE TO YOU.
SFX: CRACK
!!!
SFX: SHOOSH

SWISH
HOW
HOW CAN IT BE? I CAN'T MOVE!
SFX 〈SHINE〉
SFX 〈SHAKE〉
DAMMIT!
I DIDN'T THINK THIS WOULD HAPPEN...
AAAAAH!
SFX 〈WOBBLE〉
PLEASE DON'T BLAME ME ..
BECAUSE I'VE MADE A PACT WITH KEITA

GLOW
I'M BACK...
GLOW
I...
GLOW
SFX: (GLOW)
TENJIN... WE STILL CANNOT LET YOU LOOSE...
UNTIL KEITA IS OLD ENOUGH TO CONTROL YOU... YOU WILL HAVE TO BE PATIENT UNTIL THEN...
DAMN, YOU BASTARDS...
HOW LONG DO YOU WANT TO LOCK ME UP FOR?
WELCOME BACK, KEITA
HOO...
DAD!
HUG
IF NOT FOR YOU, THESE TWO WOULD NOW BE...
BUT I WANT TO THANK YOU TENJIN...

REMEMBER THIS YOU TWO.
NEXT TIME, I'LL EXACT MY REVENGE ON YOU!
LET'S GO HOME...
BASTARD!
ALTHOUGH TENJIN HAS BEEN CURSING.
NOT ONLY IS AYA-CHAN ALL RIGHT, BUT I'VE RETURNED TO MY ORIGINAL FORM.
SO THINGS HAVE FINALLY ENDED.
I KNOW, I KNOW ...
DAD! HURRY UP AND EAT!
I'm going to be late!
LATELY, I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT AVOIDING THIS ISSUE WITH AYA-CHAN.
IT'S ALL RIGHT... IF YOU DON'T WANT TO SAY IT, THEN DON'T ...
BUT...
YOU SEEMED MORE MANLY... AND NOT QUITE THE SAME...
THAT... THAT...
WHAT HAPPENED TO KEITA THAT DAY?
ONE DAY...

I THOUGHT THE OTHER KEITA WASN'T TOO BAD
PRETTY COOL...
BUT... I STILL LIKE THE PRESENT KEITA.
AHH...
FROZEN
HAHAHA... SHE'S TALKING ABOUT ME!
OH...
UH... UMM...
I THINK... ONE DAY, I WILL TELL YOU EVERY-THING, AYA-CHAN.
AYA-CHAN...
ON THE DAY I HAVE TO BATTLE WITH TENJIN...
BUT I THINK THAT TIME WILL COME...
IF YOU DON'T HURRY UP, WE'LL BE LATE.
AH... AYA-CHAN...
TWO KEITA'S (END)



TWO KEITA'S

There were three times when I was going to debut but couldn't because of the lack of a title. Even though work was hectic, I worked diligently. One of the many jobs was this work, "Two Keita's."

At that time, I was already busy with moving, and additionally, I was drawing insert art for Jump Novel. I was up to my head in work. The only place I could debut was in the Monthly Shounen Jump. Maybe some of you readers remember that, but my art during that time was really awful, so I redrew everything this time. I took this time to improve my skills as well. I encourage my readers to slowly comprehend the differences of "Two Keita's." (If there are some hardcore readers who still has that issue of Jump, please don't take it out and read it.)

Doing this project was extremely tiring, but at that time, I was also very happy. Even though I urged the assistants to work their butts off, I still really like this project. Especially the main guy character, Keita. He is probably my favorite among all my projects (by the way, it seems like most of the readers' favorite is Keita's dad).

It's only because I was too excited about making his personality that it made the events in the story seem like I was only trying to get it over with... Please understand, in this world, you can tell a story through drawings reasonably well. (Huh? Is this really the case...?)

RebelliousArt
MangaArt's Fallen Angels

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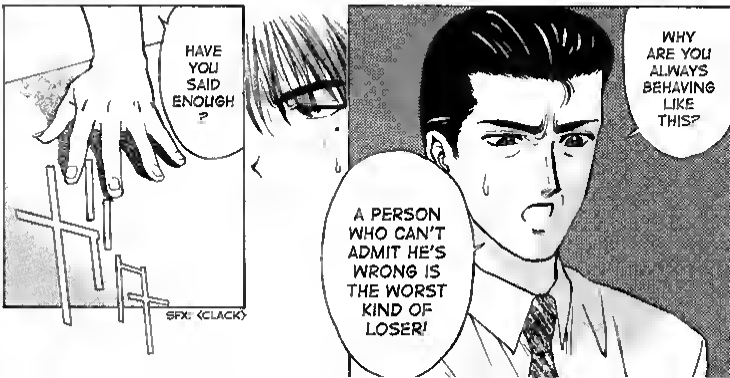
THAT'S REALLY... A NOT SO SPECIAL FUTURE.
BOTH IN BODY AND MIND
UP UNTIL NOW, THE DATA ON EXPERIMENT NO. 1 HAS BEEN PERFECT...
HIRO, YOUR DREAM HAS FINALLY COME TRUE
YES, FATHER...
LET'S GO HAVE A LOOK AT HIM!
PROTO ONE

PROTO◆ONE

NO MATTER IF IT WERE MEMORIES OF MY CHILDHOOD OR MY PRIMARY SCHOOL DAYS...
THEY WERE TOTALLY UNREAL, LIKE THE INCIDENT IN MY DREAM LAST NIGHT...
SOMETIMES I WOULD SUDDENLY FEEL LIKE MY MEMORY HAD GONE FUZZY...
ICHI-ROU!
WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO WAKE UP?
EHH
HAVE YOU WO-KEN UP?
SO IT WAS A DREAM AGAIN...
SFX: <CLATTER>
OH YES, HIS SUSPENSION IS OVER.
OH? IS TODAY HIS FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL?

SFX: <CHOMP>
!!
YOU CAN'T SAY THAT!
PAPA.
HUH! THAT'S NOT MY PROBLEM.
DON'T BEAT UP THE TEACHER NEXT TIME.
MOTHER
SHUT UP! YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT MY SCHOOL SITUATION, OKAY?
YOU'RE ALWAYS NAGGING ME——
SFX: <SLAP>


HAVE YOU SAID ENOUGH?
SFX: <CLACK>
WHY ARE YOU ALWAYS BEHAVING LIKE THIS?
A PERSON WHO CAN'T ADMIT HE'S WRONG IS THE WORST KIND OF LOSER!

I JUST WANT YOU TO GROW UP INTO A DECENT PERSON.
STOP RIGHT THERE, ICHI-ROU!
I DON'T LIKE SCOLDING YOU!
SFX: (DING DONG)
SFX (CLACK)
ICHI-ROU!
I DIDN'T ASK YOU TO WORRY ABOUT ME!
YES, PAPA IS REALLY WORRIED ABOUT YOU...
GOOD MORNING ICHIROU
NO-THING!
...WHAT'S THE MATTER?
.....

Rebellious Art
Manga Art of Fallen Angels

I DON'T KNOW WHY I CAN'T TALK TO MY PARENTS WITHOUT ARGUING LATELY...
FORGET IT. IT CAN'T BE HELPED...
SINCE YAMADA ICHIROU HAS ALWAYS BEHAVED BADLY!
WHO WOULD GIVE SUCH A COMMON NAME NOW?
ESPECIALLY SINCE MY SURNAME IS YAMADA
FROM THIS NAME, YOU CAN TELL...
Apologies to everyone named Yamada
YOU... YOU CALLED ME BY MY FULL NAME!
ANYWAY, I DIDN'T GET YOUR NAME WRONG.
SFX: <GIGGLE>
HOW THEY SEE ME AS A BURDEN AND CAN'T BE BOTHERED WITH ME
BY THE FACT THAT NOT A SINGLE PHOTOGRAPH OR TOY OF MY CHILDHOOD HAS BEEN KEPT...
DOESN'T THE FACT THEY'RE SO CONCERNED ABOUT YOU PROVE THEY CARE?
...AND DIDN'T THEY GIVE YOU A GIFT FOR YOUR BIRTHDAY LAST YEAR?
YOUR PLATI-NUM MEDAL-LION?
I THINK THAT'S BECAUSE THEY LIKE THIS.

IF EVERYONE DIDN'T TALK TO EACH OTHER, IT'D BE A GONE CASE
AND A FAMILY THAT ARGUES STILL HAS SOME HOPE
THE FACT THAT THEY'RE ALWAYS NAGGING YOU SHOWS THEY REALLY ARE WORRIED ABOUT YOU...
THAT'S RIGHT... THREE YEARS AGO...
ANYWAY, TIME REALLY FLIES IT'S BEEN THREE YEARS SINCE YOU'VE MOVED HERE.
I ALREADY KNOW EVERY-THING THAT YOU'VE SAID TO ME.
I REMEMBER YOU MOVED HERE DURING YOUR FIRST YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL.
THAT LONG AGO?
I CAME TO THIS TOWN . . .
HEY, YAMA-D.

YAMADA ICHI-ROU!
SFX: (DON)
HEY, HEY, HEY!
SFX: (PISSED)
YES, I KNOW!
SFX: (WHAP WHAP)
YOU'VE RE-TURNED TO SCHOOL TODAY?
YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED TO CAUSE TROUBLE IN THE FUTURE!
THAT'S GOOD, IF IT'S TRUE...
NO PROBLEM, TEACHER THIS GUY HAS TURNED OVER A NEW LEAF

I WAS TOLD THEIR SCHOOL DIDN'T HAVE A GRADUATE NAMED YAMADA ICHIROU...
WHEN I CALLED THEM...
TELL ME... WHAT'S THE STORY BEHIND THAT?
I'VE JUST ORGANIZED THE STUDENT RECORDS.
ABOUT THE MIDDLE SCHOOL YOU GRADU-ATED FROM...

IF YOU THINK OF ANYTHING, REMEMBER TO TELL ME
ANYWAY, I'LL GET IN TOUCH WITH YOUR PARENTS FIRST
HUH? DID SOMEONE MAKE A MISTAKE?
I THOUGHT SO TOO!
HAHA HA
COULD THE SCHOOL RECORDS BE WRONG?
HOW DID THIS HAPPEN...?
THAT'S STRANGE
OR PERHAPS, ICHIROU, YOU WROTE DOWN THE WRONG INFORMATION YOURSELF.
HEY... ICHIROU
III-B
JUST KIDDING!
MORON

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MangaArt's Fallen Angels

SOMEONE AT THE SCHOOL GATES IS LOOKING FOR YOU...
LOOK-ING FOR ME?
YES.
THEY WERE DRESSED LIKE DOCTORS...
WHO COULD THAT BE?
SFX <TAP TAP>
STRANGE...
THERE ISN'T ANYONE HERE...
!!
SFX <GLANCE GLANCE>
YOU'VE COME... PROTO ONE...
AH, NO... IT'S YAMADA ICHIROU

EXCUSE ME... WERE YOU LOOKING FOR ME?
WHO ARE THESE GUYS?
?
WAIT!
!!!
TAKE HIM AWAY, IPSILON
SFX: <GRAB>
WHO ARE YOU GUYS?
DAMN IT... HE'S TOO STRONG!
SFX: <SHFF SHFF>
WHERE ARE YOU TAKING ME?
WHOA! WAH!
I ASKED YOU TO WAIT!
I THINK YOU'VE GOT THE WRONG GUY!
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO DO?
SFX: <THUD>

HELLO
THAT
IS ME?

WE HAVE NOT MET FOR A LONG TIME...
AH, I FORGOT THIS WOULD BE THE FIRST TIME YOU'VE SEEN ME
ARE YOU SHOCKED THAT WE HAVE THE EXACT SAME FACE?
ACTUALLY, YOU'VE NO NEED FOR CONCERN
EVEN THE VOICE IS THE SAME...
BECAUSE I AM YOU.
?
HUH?
IT MUST HAVE BEEN A PAIN FOR YOU TO LIVE OUTSIDE FOR THREE YEARS.
COME, LET'S GO...
TO THE PLACE WHERE YOU WERE BORN.

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MangaArt's Fallen Angels

SFX: (SWF)
HUH?
SOON, YOU WILL REMEMBER
THAT YOU ARE ACTUALLY MY CLONE, CREATED FROM MY DNA.
SFX: (THWOK)
EH...
WHAT HAPPENED... TO ME?

THE GUY WHO LOOKED EXACTLY LIKE ME...
WHAT EXACTLY DID HE SAY?
ERR..
WHAT'S GOING ON...?
HEART RATE IS NORMAL
.....
.....
THE RESULTS OF OUR ANALYSIS ARE PERFECT
WHO ARE YOU?
WHERE IS THIS PLACE?
YOU'RE AWAKE?
SFX (FWIP)
WE ARE AN ORGANIZATION SPECIALIZING IN RESEARCH ON GENETICS AND LIFE
THIS IS A CLASSIFIED GOVERNMENT CENTRAL BIOLOGY RESEARCH LAB

I AM HIMURO, THE HEAD OF THIS RESEARCH LAB
OUR EXISTENCE HAS NEVER BEEN REVEALED TO THE PUBLIC
RE-SEARCH ON LIFE?
THAT GUY...
WHO LOOKED LIKE ME...
THAT IS HIRO, MY SON
AND LIKE ME, HE'S ONE OF THE TOP SENIOR RESEARCHERS IN THIS LAB...
ALTHOUGH HIRO IS ONLY 25 YEARS OLD, HE'S A BIOLOGY AND GENETICS PRODIGY
I HAVE TAUGHT HIM ALL THAT I KNOW
AND NOW IN THE FIELD OF GENETICS, HE HAS SURPASSED MY KNOWLEDGE AND SKILL...
THAT'S WHY WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO CREATE SUCH A PERFECT CLONE...
THANKS TO HIRO, MY CAREER HAS REACHED UNIMAGINABLE HEIGHTS

ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND?
.....
YOU ARE NOT HUMAN.
YOU ARE SPECIMEN NO 1, PROTO ONE.
YOU WERE CREATED BY HIRO, HIS CLONE.
IT IS UNDER-STANDABLE IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE IT.
BUT YOU WERE REALLY BORN IN THIS LAB—
THREE YEARS AGO.
YOU'RE TALKING NON-SENSE!
I DON'T RECOG-NIZE YOU AT ALL.
I'M A NORMAL PERSON!
SFX: <SHWOOP>
I DON'T WANT TO TALK TO YOU ANY-MORE—
I WANT TO LEAVE!
IT LOOKS LIKE YOU STILL DON'T UNDER-STAND.
AS MY CLONE, YOUR REASONING ABILITY IS REALLY POOR!
SFX: <PWIP>

SFX: (BLOOP BLOOP)
IT LOOKS LIKE YOU STILL DON'T BELIEVE US
DAMN!
THAT GOES WITHOUT SAYING!
LET'S SHOW THIS TO YOU!
SFX: (BEEP) (WHIRR)
I THINK IT'LL HELP CONVINCE YOU
!!!

ARGGGG!
WHAT ?
WHA ..
ALL THESE SPECIMENS WERE CREATED FROM MY FATHER'S EXPERIMENTAL RESEARCH
THEY ARE ALL INCOMPLETE PEOPLE SOME LACK A USABLE BRAIN
SOME COULD NOT GROW ALL IN ALL, FAILED EXPERIMENTS
AFTER THESE FAILURES, I MANAGED TO COMPLETE YOU THREE YEARS AGO
THE CLONE THAT POSSESSES MY POTENTIAL AND DNA
IT'S ONLY A PITY THAT YOU HAVE MY 15-YEAR-OLD POTENTIAL

THIS WAS FOLLOWED BY OBSERVING YOUR BODY AND SPIRIT TO SEE IF IT IS COMPARABLE TO A NORMAL HUMAN'S LIFE.
FOLLOWING THIS, I CAN FINALLY START MY RESEARCH PROPERLY.
BUT BEFORE THAT, I HAVE TO DETERMINE HOW COMPLETE YOU ARE.
THE RESULT WAS VERY SUCCESSFUL.
YOU ARE A PERFECT "PERSON."
SO I PLACED YOU OUTSIDE AND HAVE BEEN FAITHFULLY RECORDING
THE ORIGINAL OBSERVATION PERIOD WAS FIVE YEARS. BUT BECAUSE IT WAS GOING SO WELL, I DECIDED TO END IT EARLIER.
THESE THREE YEARS OF YOUR LIFE.
I HAVE BEEN RAISED FROM INFANCY BY MY PARENTS.
I... I AM A NORMAL HUMAN BEING.
WHAT... WHAT NONSENSE ARE YOU SAYING?
YOU'RE SIMILAR TO ME, BUT YOU LIVED UNDER A DIFFERENT ENVIRONMENT.
MOST OF YOUR PERSONALITY IS DIFFERENT FROM MINE.
BUT I AM VERY INTERESTED IN THE INFORMATION ON YOU.

HAHA... THEY'RE NOT YOUR PAR-- ENTS.
TO HAVE YOU LEAD A NORMAL LIFE, WE HAD LAB WORKERS ACT AS YOUR PARENTS.
AT THE SAME TIME, THEY WERE ABLE TO OBSERVE YOU UP CLOSE.
PROTO ONE, YOUR MEMORY WAS COMPLETELY CREATED BY US THREE YEARS AGO
IT LOOKS LIKE THE COUPLE WHO ACTED AS YOUR PARENTS DID A GOOD JOB.
SHUT UP!
I AM NOT PROTO ONE,
I AM YAMADA ICHIROU!
WHAT?
THAT NAME WAS GIVEN BY ME
LIVING OUTSIDE REQUIRED A NAME
I COULDN'T BE BOTHERED, SO I CHOSE A VERY COMMON NAME.
FROM WHAT I HEAR, YOU WERE VERY MINDFUL OF THAT.
MY APOLOGIES HAHAHA.

I THINK YOU'RE BEGINNING TO UNDERSTAND A LITTLE
.....
THEN, I'LL TAKE YOUR LEAVE AND GO BACK TO WORK
PERHAPS WE WERE TOO ANXIOUS TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH...
THERE WAS NO HELPING IT...
UNTIL TONIGHT, I'LL GIVE YOU SOME FREEDOM...
PROFESSOR, IS THAT ALL RIGHT?
IT'S ALL RIGHT. HE CAN'T ESCAPE EVEN IF HE WANTS TO ANYWAY
BECAUSE TODAY IS HIS LAST DAY LIVING OUTSIDE
I FEEL THAT HE SHOULD HAVE THIS BIT OF FREEDOM. EVEN IF HE IS A CLONE, HE STILL IS A HUMANOID
IT'S NOT TRUE...
SOMETHING THIS FANTASTICAL CAN'T HAPPEN!
PERHAPS HE'S THINKING OF BIDDING FAREWELL TO SOMEONE...

I HEARD YOU LET PROTO ONE GO. IS THAT TRUE?
DAD ...
SFX: <BAM>
I AM SORRY ABOUT MAKING THIS DECISION ON MY OWN.
I JUST GAVE HIM A LITTLE FREE-DOM.
I COULDN'T HELP EMPATHIZING WITH HIS FEELINGS.
WHO WOULD BELIEVE SUCH A CRAZY STORY!?
OH, ICHI-ROU...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

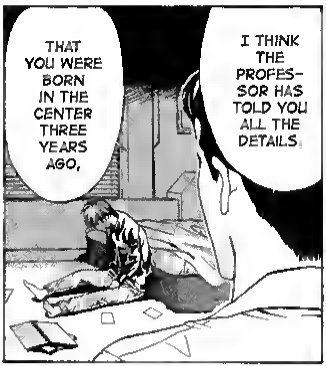
GRADUATES ROLL
I TRIED GIVING MY HIGH SCHOOL CLASSMATES A CALL
THE TELE-PHONE
IN THE END, NONE OF THEM PICKED UP
WHETHER IT'S TERASAKA, KAWADA
OR MY GOOD FRIEND NAKA-MURA
THIS NUMBER IS NOT IN USE
PLEASE CHECK THE NUMBER AND CALL AGAIN THANK YOU

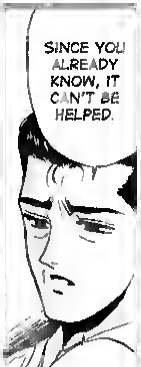
MOTHER YOU SHOULD BE MY MOTHER
AND NOT THOSE BASTARDS' ACCOMPLICE

ICHI ICHIROU
TODAY I MET A SCOUNDREL WHO LOOKED EXACTLY LIKE ME
HE SAID I WAS CREATED BY HIM
HAHA THAT'S VERY FUNNY

THEY SAID THEY'LL COME BACK TO COLLECT ME TONIGHT...
HAHA
JOKES SHOULD
ALSO
HAVE A LIMIT...
BASTARD!
SFX: CRASH!
WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT?
WHY WEREN'T WE TOLD OF THIS?
ACCORDING TO THE PLAN, WEREN'T THEY COMING FOR HIM TWO YEARS LATER?
AND ICHI-ROU?
HE'S LOCKED HIMSELF UP IN THE ROOM

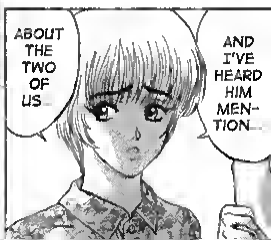
ICHIROU


THAT YOU WERE BORN IN THE CENTER THREE YEARS AGO.
I THINK THE PROFES-SOR HAS TOLD YOU ALL THE DETAILS.


SINCE YOU ALREADY KNOW, IT CAN'T BE HELPED.
I THINK I NEED TO HAVE A CHAT WITH YOU.

I GUESS YOU'VE MET PROFES-SOR HI-MURO?

AND WE WERE SENT TO BE YOUR PARENTS.


ABOUT THE TWO OF US...
AND I'VE HEARD HIM MEN-TION...

OUR MAIN ROLE WAS TO TAKE CARE OF YOU.
TO OBSERVE IF YOU HAD ANY EMOTIONAL PROBLEMS...
OR DID ANY STRANGE THINGS.
BUT WE'VE ALWAYS SEEN OURSELVES AS YOUR REAL PARENTS
BECAUSE WE FELT IT WOULD BE BETTER FOR YOU.
THAT'S WHY I DON'T REMEMBER ANYTHING FROM MY CHILD-HOOD!
WERE THESE FEW PHOTO-GRAPHS FAKED AS WELL!?
IN ANY CASE, THEY WERE ALL DESIGNED TO FOOL ME!
SO YOU'RE HIS PEOPLE AFTER ALL...
THAT'S RIGHT.
SFX: <GRAB>
SFX: <SLAM>
WHAT KIND OF JOKE IS THAT!?
EVERY-THING I KNOW WAS ALL FABRI-CATED!
WHAT HAVE I BELIEVED IN ALL ALONG!?

ICHI-ROU, LISTEN TO ME!
SHUT UP!
STOP THAT.. IT WAS WRONG OF US TO HAVE DUPED YOU...
BUT WE ARE...
SFX: (BAM) (SWOOSH)
NO, NO!
I WAS STUPID NOT TO HAVE KNOWN I..
SO I'VE ALWAYS BEEN SEEN AS AN EXPERI-MENTAL OBJECT..
SFX: (ZU)
SFX: (THUD THUD)

SCOUNDREL!
PROFESSOR!
HAVE YOU SAID ALL YOUR FAREWELLS?
MY APOLOGIES TO THE TWO OF YOU.
YOUR MISSION IS COMPLETED
LET'S GO, PROTO ONE
RETURN WITH ME TO THE LAB
PRO PROFESSOR, WAIT A WHILE!
WHAT'S THE SUDDEN RUSH?
ACCORDING TO THE PLAN, AREN'T THERE TWO YEARS LEFT?
I HAVE NO REASON TO TELL YOU.
LET GO OF ME.
I'M NOT LETTING GO!
STOP THAT!
SFX: THUD

PRO-FES-SOR, I BEG OF YOU!!
PLEASE FOLLOW WHAT WE AGREED UPON AND WAIT TWO MORE YEARS.
LIVE?
ICHIROU SHOULD HAVE THAT RIGHT TO LIVE.
"RIGHT"? THIS GUY IS ONLY A CLONE...
EVEN IF HE'S A CLONE, HIS IDENTITY IS STILL YAMADA ICHIROU, A BLOOD AND FLESH PERSON
THAT'S RIGHT...
HIS BODY WAS GIVEN BY ME.
SFX: <WHACK>
GET LOST...
UGH!
I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR YOUR ARGUMENTS.
I ALREADY HAVE NO TIME LEFT.

TAKE HIM AWAY!
EVERY-ONE, DON'T MOVE!
SFX: <FWIP>
WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?
THIS GUN WAS ORIGINALLY GOING TO BE USED AS A LAST RESORT. I NEVER THOUGHT I'D USE IT THIS WAY...
SFX: <GUNVER>
WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU TWO?
HAVE YOU COM-PLETELY FORGOTTEN YOUR ROLES AND RESPON-SIBILI-TIES?
THE MOST IMPORTANT THING TO THE TWO OF YOU SHOULD BE MAKING THIS PLAN A SUCCESS!

...!!
BUT AFTER WE STARTED LIVING WITH HIM...
WE HAD INITIALLY THOUGHT THAT WAY.
IN THESE THREE YEARS OF LIVING WITH ICHIROU, I HAVE ALWAYS TREATED HIM LIKE MY OWN SON.
EVEN IF HE WAS ARTIFICIALLY CREATED, WE ARE STILL A REAL FAMILY!
.....
THIS IS WHAT YOU'VE FORCED ME TO DO.
I WILL NOT HAND HIM OVER TO YOU.
AS ICHIROU'S FATHER, NO MATTER WHAT YOU SAY...
THIS IS CALLED "GETTING EMOTIONALLY ATTACHED."
AN EXTREMELY STUPID THING TO DO.
SFX: (KACHAK)
SFX: (BANG)
WILL NEVER BE DESTROYED BY YOUR FOOLISH FEELINGS!
MY DREAMS

ENOUGH, HIRO! STOP THAT.
DAD!
SFX: <RATTLE>
WHA ...?
ESCAPE, ICHI-ROU!
SFX: <BA-THUMP>

I DIDN'T PLAN TO LEAVE YOU THIS WAY...
BUT DAD AND I HAVE FELT THAT IT WAS A GREAT BLESSING TO HAVE MET YOU...
ICHIROU... YOU ARE OUR SON.
MOM ...!
SFX: (SLIP)
SFX: (BAM) (SLAM) (THUD)
ICHIROU, YOU ARE OUR SON...
MOM!
!!
GU ..
MOM ..
MOM
SFX: (SHFF SHFF)

DAMN IT! HURRY UP AND CATCH HIM!
PRO-FES-SOR?
だだだ
SFX: (TMP TMP)
AH?
DIDN'T YOU... FEEL ...?
PARENTS TRYING TO SAVE THEIR CHILD—— FROM MY PERSPECTIVE, THEY HAD A REAL PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP
JUST NOW, THEY ONLY WANTED TO SAVE PROTO ONE-
OO AH AH AH... !

AHH... WHY ...?
WHY HAVE I NEVER DISCOV-ERED...?

SFX: (HAA HAA)
SFX: (STAGGER)
EVERYTHING I HAVE IS GONE NOW
EVERYTHING IS GONE

MY PAST
MY MEMO-RIES
EVEN MY BODY
MY FAMILY

YOU WERE CREATED BY ME...
FOR HIM?
I AM ONLY LIVING FOR HIM?
SFX: (THUMP)
WHAT DOES IT MATTER EVEN IF I ESCAPE?
WHAT AM I?
WHAT AM I LIVING FOR?
EVEN IF I CONTINUE BREATHING, WHAT DOES IT MATTER?
SFX: (THUD)
I CLEARLY HAVE NOTHING NOW.

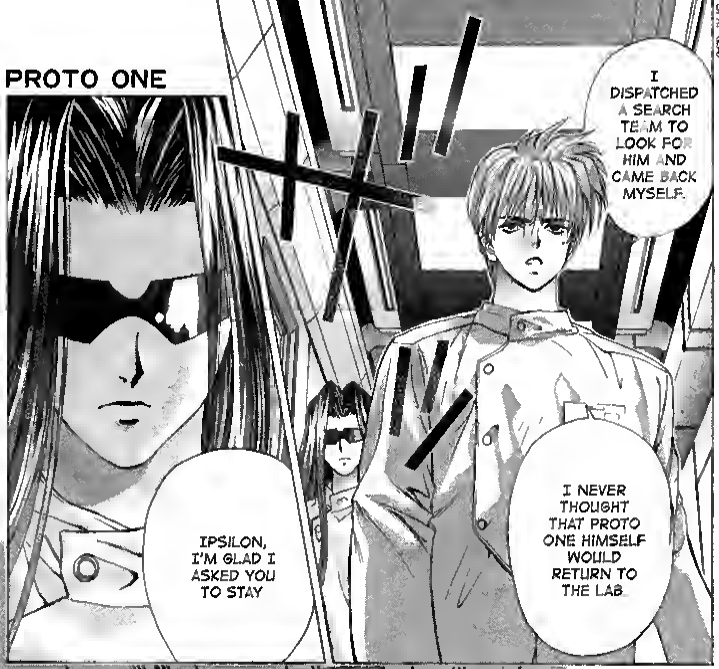
MOM!
DAD...
ICHIROU...
I'VE LOST EVERYTHING... EVERYTHING
WHAT SHOULD I DO IN FUTURE?
YOU JUST HAVE TO BELIEVE... ISN'T THAT THE TRUTH?
WHY HAVE YOU LOST ALL HOPE?
ICHIROU...
THAT'S RIGHT... TO ICHIROU, THAT IS HIS REALITY
YOU JUST HAVE TO FIND A PATH TO FOLLOW.
BUT... DAD MOM... YOU'RE DEAD
NOT EVERYTHING YOU KNEW IN THIS WORLD WAS AN ILLUSION.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO FEEL SAD OVER THIS
WE DID IT TO SAVE YOU...
SINCE WE ARE YOUR PARENTS, THAT'S THE WAY IT SHOULD BE, ISN'T IT?
YOU ARE OUR EVERYTHING
ICHIROU...
WE HAVE BEEN LIVING FOR YOU...
YES
To our dearest son
A DREAM...?

I HAVE NEVER DISCOVERED
To our dearest son
SOMETHING THIS IMPORTANT
I...
WHAT HAVE I BEEN LOOKING AT ALL ALONG?
SFX (PLIP PLIP)
SFX (GLARE)
I MUST FIGHT BACK!
FOR THE TRUTH I BELIEVE IN!

WHO ARE YOU?
SFX: <CRACK> <THUD>
AHH! WAHH!
SFX: <HAA HAA>
NO... IT'S NOT THAT!
HAVE YOU CAUGHT HIM?
PRO-FESSOR! PROTO ONE, HE .
WHAT'S HAPPEN-ING?
SFX: <CRASH>

SFX: <CRASH>
SO MANY STRANGE CREATURES!
SFX: <CLINK>
HE ACTUALLY CREATED...
SFX: <HAA HAA>
SFX: <CRASH> <THUD>


I DISPATCHED A SEARCH TEAM TO LOOK FOR HIM AND CAME BACK MYSELF.
I NEVER THOUGHT THAT PROTO ONE HIMSELF WOULD RETURN TO THE LAB.
IPSILON, I'M GLAD I ASKED YOU TO STAY

SFX: (TMP TMP)
だだだだ
HIMURO, WHERE ARE YOU!?
DAMMIT, WHERE IS HE!?
WHERE IN THE WORLD IS HE!?
DID YOU RUN HERE TO LOOK FOR ME ESPE-- CIALLY?
SHOW YOUR-SELF!

YOU REALLY ARE BRAVE, PROTO ONE
DID YOU WANT SOME-THING?
ACCORDING TO CURRENT ETHICAL STANDARDS, HUMAN CLONING IS STILL A FORBIDDEN AREA OF RESEARCH
THAT WAS UNFOR-TUNATE
WHY DID YOU KILL MY MOM AND DAD?
HOW COULD I LET SOMETHING LIKE THIS DESTROY THE FRUITS OF MY LABOR?
WHEN I SAW HOW STRONGLY AFFECTED THEY WERE, I KNEW THAT THEY WOULD SACRIFICE OUR ORGANIZATION FOR YOU.
WHAT REASON DID YOU HAVE TO KILL THEM!?

SO...
BE-
C USE
OF
THIS...
WHY ARE YOU SAD OVER THIS?
THEY WEREN'T YOUR REAL PARENTS.
THEY WERE TO ME!
IN THAT CASE, SHOULDN'T I BE CONSIDERED YOUR REAL PARENT?
WHAT!?
I CREATED YOU, GAVE YOU LIFE...
I AM A GOD TO YOU.
SFX: (WHACK)
WHAT
WHAT KIND OF JOKE IS THAT!?

BUT HE'S A 3RD GRADE PRODUCT WITHOUT INTELLI-GENCE.
IPSILON IS A CLONE LIKE YOU.
IPSILON, FINISH HIM OFF
A PITY, PROTO ONE.
YOU SEEM TO HAVE COME HERE TO KILL ME, BUT IT LOOKS LIKE YOUR PLAN WAS A DANGEROUS ONE.
SFX: (THUD)
GUU AAA AA AH!
GU ...
SFX: (CHOKE)

SFX: <CHOKE CHOKE>
IT'S NO USE FIGHTING BACK.
IPSILON HAS UNDERGONE GENETIC CHANGES. HIS STRENGTH SURPASSES THAT OF NORMAL HUMAN BEINGS.
YOU CAN'T RESIST HIM
EVEN EVEN SO . I..
SFX: <SQUEEZE>
I... CANNOT
SFX: <STAB>
DIE HERE!
GU ...
SFX: <PLIP PLIP>
I WILL... KILL YOU...
EH ..
GU AH HH H!
EH!

SFX: <WHOMP> <CRACK> <THUD>
!!
OO-MPH!
SFX: <GUAAAA>
HYAAHH!

THIS DAMN TIME... ...
AM I REALLY FINISHED?
SFX: 〈SNAP〉
ICHIROU...
SFX: 〈SMACK〉
SFX: 〈GRAB〉

SFX: <THUD>
SFX: <SMACK> <CRACK> <THUD> <HAA HAA>
SFX: <BANG>
HAH ...
AAA AHH HH!
HAH ...

BUT YOU'VE OVERDONE IT.
NO MATTER HOW PRECIOUS THE OBJECT IS——
ANYONE WHO HAS ILL INTENTIONS TOWARDS ME WILL NOT BE FORGIVEN
I ADMIRE YOU GREATLY.
SFX <BANG>
HEY!
YOU WANT TO KILL ME THEN?
IF I GUESSED CORRECTLY,
YOU REALLY NEED MY BODY—
TO TRANSFORM IT INTO YOURS.
CAN YOU DO IT?

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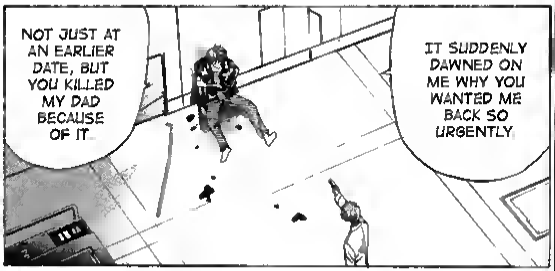
MangaArt's Fallen Angels

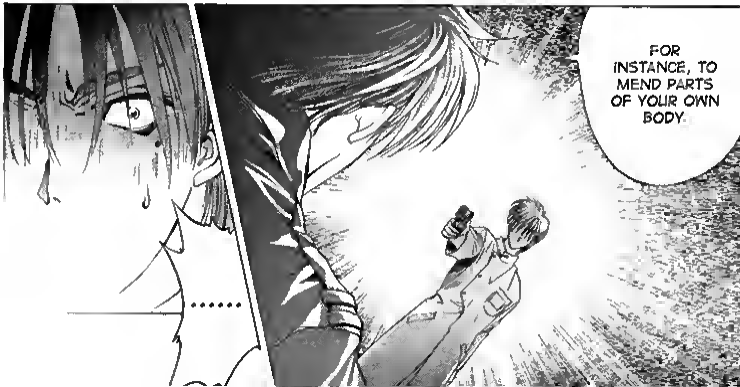

NOT JUST AT AN EARLIER DATE, BUT YOU KILLED MY DAD BECAUSE OF IT.
IT SUDDENLY DAWNED ON ME WHY YOU WANTED ME BACK SO URGENTLY.

AND OF ALL THESE FAILED CREATIONS
SOME OF THEM HAD BEEN CUT UP...
BUT IT'S ONLY THOSE WHO HAD CLOSE TO COMPLETE BODIES

AND IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO'S ANXIOUS.
ALMOST AS IF YOUR LIFE DEPENDED ON IT.

!!

I THINK YOU'VE USED THOSE SUCCESSFULLY CREATED PORTIONS FOR ANOTHER PURPOSE.
BUT THEY DON'T
IF IT WAS ONLY IN THE NAME OF RESEARCH, THEN EVERY ONE OF THOSE INCOMPLETE BODIES WOULD HAVE INCISIONS


FOR INSTANCE, TO MEND PARTS OF YOUR OWN BODY.
.....

YOUR BODY SHOULD BE IN A BAD STATE NOW, AND YOU'RE USING HARVESTED ORGANS TO LENGTHEN YOUR LIFE
YOU'VE RUN OUT OF TIME, SO YOU WERE ANXIOUS TO CHANGE INTO MY BODY
HEHE... MY REASONING WAS RIGHT, WASN'T IT?
PU TONG!
PU TONG!
KE KE
HA HA HA HA.
IMPRESSIVE. YOU'VE GUESSED CORRECTLY.
THAT'S WHY I HAVE BEEN RESEARCHING RELENTLESSLY
YOU'RE RIGHT.
TO CURE THIS KIND OF ILLNESS, I NEEDED A HEALTHY CLONE
TO LENGTHEN MY LIFESPAN, I CREATED MANY CLONES, UNTIL I FINALLY CREATED YOU
ACCORDING TO MY PLAN, AFTER YOU WERE RETRIEVED, THE NEXT STEP WOULD BE TRANSPLANTING MY BRAIN
MY BODY HAS STARTED
COMING APART
THEN YOUR BODY WOULD BE MINE TO USE.

HAH... I UNDERSTAND NOW. SO THAT'S THE TRUTH.
YOU...
ARE ACTUALLY JUST LIKE ME. A CLONE.
!!!
IF A CLONE COULD REALLY UNDERGO A COMPLETE CLONE PROCESS....
A CLONE CREATED FROM YOU, WHO IS SEVERELY ILL, WOULD HAVE A DEFECTIVE BODY.
IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO CREATE A HEALTHY BODY LIKE MINE.
THAT IS TO SAY, WE'RE BOTH CLONES.
ONLY I'M A GOOD SPECIMEN AND YOU'RE A BAD ONE.
YOU...
YOU FOOL...
HIRO, THAT IS ENOUGH.
WE HAVE MADE A GRAVE MISTAKE.

BOTH YOURS AND THE CURRENT HIRO'S BODIES WERE CREATED FROM THE ORIGINAL HIRO'S DNA.
PROTO ONE... IT IS AS YOU HAVE SAID
I HAVE FINALLY REALIZED
HOW GREATLY I WAS WRONG.
FATHER!
WE HAVE NO RIGHT TO TAKE IT AWAY.
AFTER GIVING A PERSON A LIFE, THAT LIFE IS HIS.
EVEN IF IT IS YOU, I WILL NOT FORGIVE YOU IF YOU HAD THOUGHT TO STOP ME
SFX: <COLLAPSE>
OHH!
SFX: <BANG>
SHUT UP!
GAAH!

FATHER, YOU DO NOT UNDER-STAND—
THIS RESEARCH MEANS EVERYTHING TO ME
SFX: <RUMMAGE>
HIRO, PLEASE TRY TO UNDER-STAND!
DO NOT CON-TINUE WITH THIS!
SFX: <DRIP>
HIRO!
BUT I'M NOT THE *FAILURE* YOU SAID I WAS.
THAT'S RIGHT, I'M A CLONE.
AFTER THIS I WILL BE ABLE TO USE YOUR BODY TO BECOME A REAL PERSON
THIS BRAIN IS THE ORIGINAL BRAIN, ONLY I USED A REPLACEMENT BODY TO REPLACE THE ONE I LOST.
SFX: <SHFF SHFF>
THIS BODY IS MINE...
I WON'T MAKE THIS EASY FOR YOU!!

MY MEM-ORIES ...
AND MY WORLD AS WELL!
AND SO I WILL ACCEPT IT ALL
GOOD BYE... PROTO ONE.
GRR...
SHARP PAIN
SFX: <GRIP>
SFX: <IIA>
!!!
SFX: <SNEAK>

IPSI-
LON!
SFX: (SQUEEZE) (CLICK)
LET GO OF ME ...
I CAN'T ...
DON'T YOU RECOG-NIZE ME?
LET GO! IPSILON!
I WILL KILL...
YOU ...
SFX: (CHOKE)
AHHH ...

SFX: 〈FWUMP〉
SFX: 〈THUD〉
I WILL KILL YOU
KILL ...
GAAAAAAAHHH!
OH!
AH!
SFX: 〈SHARP PAIN〉

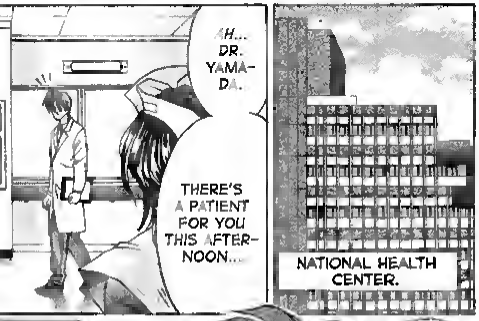
SFX: (RIP) (BLOOSH)
SFX: (CHAK)
HM!
SFX: (BLAM)

SFX: (HAH HAH)
AND SO...
HAH
NO ONE WILL BE ABLE TO CLONE ANYONE.
SFX: (COLLAPSE)
GUH
SFX: (THUD)
THIS KIND OF TRAGEDY WON'T HAPPEN AGAIN
THE ORIGINAL HIRO DIED IN A CAR ACCIDENT
I WASN'T WILLING TO LET MY SON DIE, SO I RETURNED HIRO TO LIFE IN A CLONED BODY.

IT WAS A WONDER THAT HIRO HAD LIVED FOR SO LONG.
TUMORS KEPT CROPPING UP IN THE INCOMPLETE CLONED BODY
BUT THE CLONING TECHNIQUE WASN'T COMPLETE AT THE TIME
FINALLY, HE PERFECTED THE TECHNIQUE
DESPERATELY RESEARCHING
HIRO USED OTHER BODIES TO PROLONG HIS LIFE——
AND I WANTED TO SAVE MY IMPERFECT SON.
A FIGHT AGAINST DEATH
TO HIRO, CREATING A PERFECT BODY WAS A BATTLE.
SFX: <DRAG>
WHY HADN'T I REALIZED THIS BEFORE?
I HADN'T THOUGHT I'D HARM YOU, BUT I MADE YOU A VICTIM LIKE HIRO
AHH

I BEG YOU TO FORGIVE US
FOR TAKING THOSE TWO PEOPLE FROM YOUR SIDE
YOUR PARENTS HAVE TAUGHT ME ONE THING
FORGET IT YOU ARE NO LONGER HIRO YOU ARE YAMADA ICHIROU
HIS OTHER SELF HAD PARENTS WHO WERE WILLING TO DIE TO PROTECT HIM
COMPARED TO HIS UNFORTUNATE SELF,
HIRO MUST HAVE BEEN JEALOUS OF YOU THEN
I HOPE YOU WON'T HATE HIRO
IF POSSIBLE
BECAUSE IT'S ALL
MY FAULT

——10 YEARS LATER.

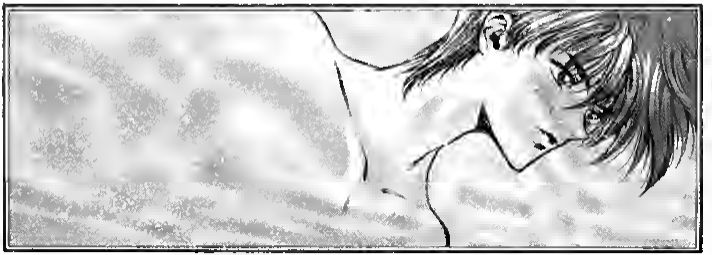

AH... DR. YAMADA.
THERE'S A PATIENT FOR YOU THIS AFTERNOON...
NATIONAL HEALTH CENTER.

I DECIDED TO TAKE UP MEDICINE
DR YAMADA IS REALLY GOOD LOOKING
FROM THAT DAY ON
AH, YES, I'M AWARE OF THAT

IT'S .....
FINISHED.

HE EVEN FOUGHT WITH THE DIRECTOR THE LAST TIME.
BUT HE'S SCARY WHEN HE GETS ANGRY.
I DIDN'T JUST BECOME A DOCTOR. I BECAME A SPECIALIST IN GENETICS.
SISTER!
I ALSO WISH TO LIVE FOR SOMEONE...
LIKE MY FATHER AND MOTHER...
I AM THE ONLY ONE LEFT, AND I WILL NOT ALLOW THE FUTURE TO POSSESS ANY OF THE TECHNIQUES TO MAKE MORE LIKE ME...
I BELIEVE THERE IS ANOTHER WAY TO IT...
I DIDN'T USE ANY OF HIMURO'S DATA TO CONTINUE HIS RESEARCH ON CLONING.
SFX: TAP TAP
EXCUSE ME, WE'RE LOOKING FOR MY HUSBAND.
HEY... HIRO, BEHAVE YOURSELF.
HEY, HEY.
WHERE'S MY DAD?

HIS NAME IS YAMADA ICHIROU!
MY DAD WORKS HERE AND HE'S A...
GREAT DOCTOR!
TRR TRR
DR YAMADA, YOUR FAMILY HAS ARRIVED TO VISIT YOU.
THANK YOU...
I'LL BE THERE SHORTLY...



PROTO ONE

Initially, the scenes were allocated 80 pages, and after some editing, it became a 71-paged story. The editor originally okayed it, but as I kept drawing, it got cut by six more pages. So when it ended up serialized on the magazine, it was a 65-paged work.

The version published here includes 2 out of the 6 pages that were cut. This is the first time since I debuted that I had enough time to draw, so I was able to fully develop it. Not only that, but the story contains my heart, so you can say that this work was something I created with all my effort.

The main theme of the story is probably something like the bond between parents and children. But because readers are probably mostly teens in their rebellious stage of life, I was a little worried whether or not this might be a bit difficult for readers to relate with (that said, manga is inevitably different from reality, so I probably didn't need to worry that much).

The following topic is a bit of an awkward issue. In fact, during my student years, I really hated my father, and normally I'd feel that it didn't matter if my parents didn't exist. I sometimes even wished that my parents would just vanish. But as time passed, particularly just a year before drawing this work, my father passed away from cancer. It was the first time I realized how important my parents were to me. Maybe that's my motivation for drawing this work! As for the artistry involved, I actually intended to draw something with a slight shounen style, but it didn't seem very successful (laughs). In the end, I stuck a lot of screentones on, so it wasn't much different from my usual work (oh yeah, my favorite picture is actually one of Ichirou having only one head).

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BLACK CITY

BY YASUHIRO KANO

CHAPTER 003
(PROTO ONE)

Scanner: immi
Translator: midori
Proofreader: eternalxshadow09
Editor: keppim
QCer: Daffyd ap Morgen

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Jewel
of
Love

HAVE YOU EVER HEARD PEOPLE SAY HOW EVEN INANIMATE OBJECTS HAVE A SPIRIT IN THEM?
SAY IF A PERSON LOVED SOME PARTICULAR OBJECT WITH ALL OF HIS HEART, THEN IT'S POSSIBLE FOR THAT OBJECT TO DEVELOP A "HEART" OF ITS OWN...
EVEN LIKE THIS, OBJECTS WILL...
SO HE THOUGHT OF A WAY FOR ALL OF THEM TO HAVE A NEW LIFE...
SALE!
HE HAD PROFOUND FEELINGS FOR ALL CHARACTERS IN THE GAMES THAT HE PLAYED,
AH!
FEELING THAT ALL THE GAMES THAT WERE THROWN AWAY BECAUSE PEOPLE WERE BORED OF THEM OR THE GAMES THAT WERE BEING SOLD AT TRAGIC DISCOUNTS WERE DESERV-ING OF PITY...
WELL THEN, I'LL USE IT!
THE POOR THING!
I'LL BET THIS THING WAS THROWN AWAY EVEN BEFORE IT WAS OPENED...

AND I WILL BE ABLE TO USE MY DARK POWERS TO BE BORN IN THE WORLD!
THE MOMENT I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR HAS FINALLY ARRIVED, DORIS.
SADLY, YOUR LIFE IS ALSO AT AN END.
SFX: (MENACE)
I'LL NEVER LET IT HAPPEN!
THE ONE WHO MUST DIE TODAY IS YOU, DEMON KING GEMIOS!
I WILL DEFEAT YOU!
SO THAT THE WORLD WILL LIVE IN JOY AND HOPE AGAIN!

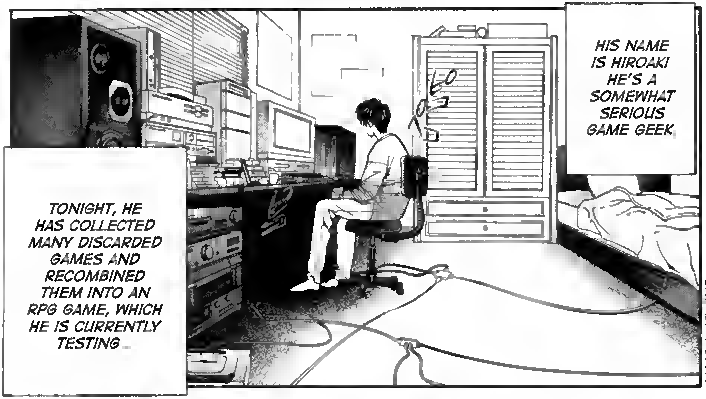
SFX: <BOOM>

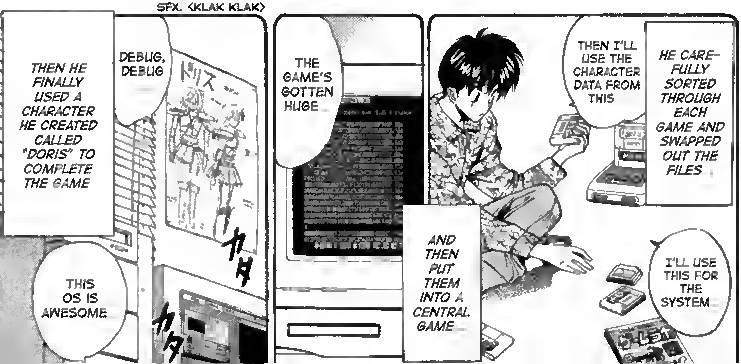
Holy Dragon Thunder Fire Bullet!

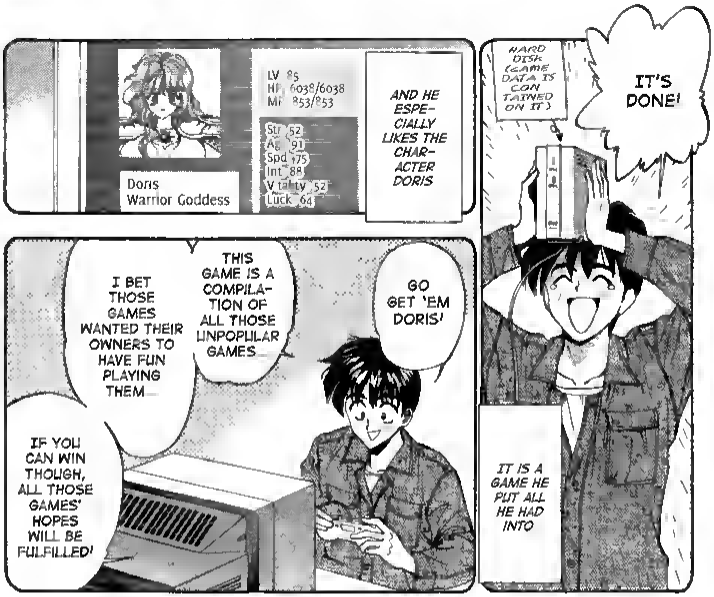
SFX: <CRACKLE>

AH, THAT'S NO GOOD?
DAMN! GET HIM!
Holy Dragon Thunder Fire Bullet
MP - 60
Demon King Gemios
69975/70000
25 points of damage done to the monster. He begins to retaliate!

SFX. <CRACKLE>


HIS NAME IS HIROAKI. HE'S A SOMEWHAT SERIOUS GAME GEEK.
TONIGHT, HE HAS COLLECTED MANY DISCARDED GAMES AND RECOMBINED THEM INTO AN RPG GAME, WHICH HE IS CURRENTLY TESTING...
SFX. <BEEP BEEP>
SFX. <KLAK KLAK>


THEN HE FINALLY USED A CHARACTER HE CREATED CALLED "DORIS" TO COMPLETE THE GAME
DEBUG, DEBUG
THIS OS IS AWESOME
THE GAME'S GOTTEN HUGE...
AND THEN PUT THEM INTO A CENTRAL GAME...
THEN I'LL USE THE CHARACTER DATA FROM THIS
HE CAREFULLY SORTED THROUGH EACH GAME AND SWAPPED OUT THE FILES...
I'LL USE THIS FOR THE SYSTEM...


Doris
Warrior Goddess
LV 5
HP 6038/6038
MP 53/53
Str 52
Agi 91
Spd 75
Int 88
Vitality 52
Luck 64
AND HE ESPECIALLY LIKES THE CHARACTER DORIS
HARD DISK (GAME DATA IS CONTAINED ON IT)
IT'S DONE!
IT IS A GAME HE PUT ALL HE HAD INTO
GO GET 'EM DORIS!
THIS GAME IS A COMPILATION OF ALL THOSE UNPOPULAR GAMES...
I BET THOSE GAMES WANTED THEIR OWNERS TO HAVE FUN PLAYING THEM...
IF YOU CAN WIN THOUGH, ALL THOSE GAMES' HOPES WILL BE FULFILLED!

HOWEVER...

WHAT'S GOING ON?
DAMMIT THE BOSS'S DEFENSE IS TOO STRONG!
DO YOUR BEST, DORIS!
Holy Firebomb
HP 70
DAMMIT... I FINALLY MADE IT TO THE FINAL BOSS...
Gemios
69918/70000
Struck Gemios for 31 points damage
EVEN THOUGH I INPUT EVERYTHING ACCORDING TO THE DATA...
WHY ARE NONE OF THE ATTACKS WORKING AGAINST THE BOSS?

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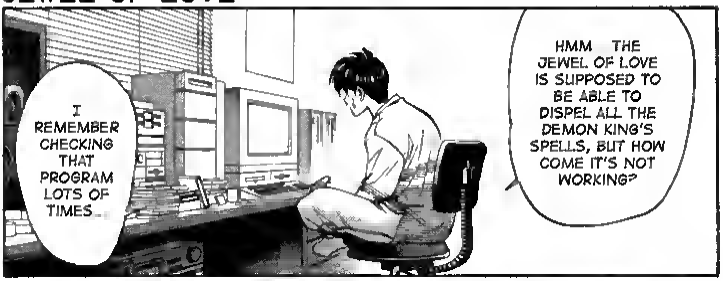
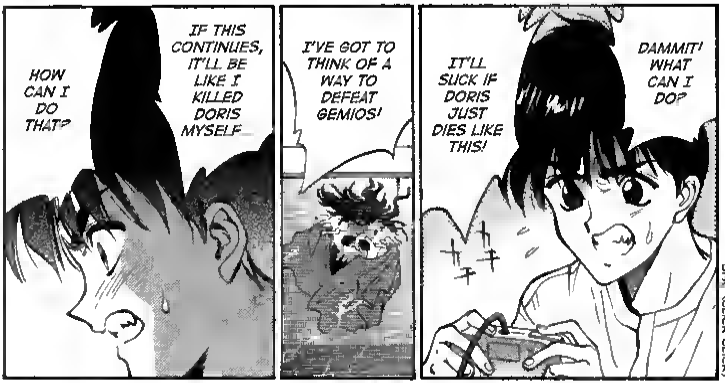
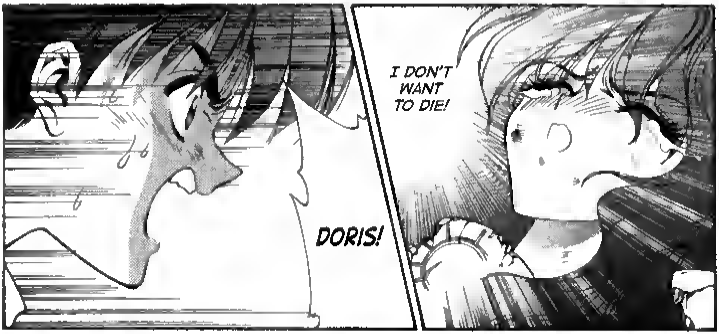

I REMEMBER CHECKING THAT PROGRAM LOTS OF TIMES...
HMM... THE JEWEL OF LOVE IS SUPPOSED TO BE ABLE TO DISPEL ALL THE DEMON KING'S SPELLS, BUT HOW COME IT'S NOT WORKING?


HOW CAN I DO THAT?
IF THIS CONTINUES, IT'LL BE LIKE I KILLED DORIS MYSELF...
I'VE GOT TO THINK OF A WAY TO DEFEAT GEMIOS!
IT'LL SUCK IF DORIS JUST DIES LIKE THIS!
DAMMIT! WHAT CAN I DO?
SFX: CLICK CLICK

COME ON, DORIS!
YOU MUSTN'T DIE!

YOU CAN DO IT!
HAA!
HAA!
HAA!
THUNDER STRIKES AND FIRE SPELLS HAVE NO EFFECT AT ALL,
NEVERMIND STRIKING HIM WITH A SWORD...
AHAHA... DORIS...
YOUR LIFE ENDS HERE!

YAAAAAARGH!
SFX: GOOO


I DON'T WANT TO DIE!
DORIS!

GIVE DORIS ANOTHER CHANCE...
I DON'T WANT THIS GAME TO BE PLAYED HALF-WAY THROUGH AND THROWN AWAY AGAIN...
WILL IT END WITHOUT BEATING THIS LEVEL AGAIN?
GIVE HER AN OTHER CHANCE!

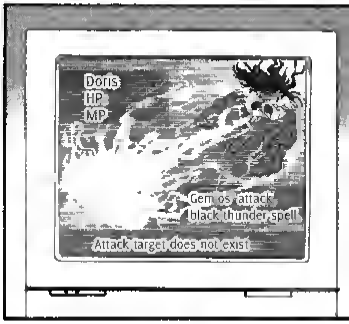
SFX: <CRACKLE>

AH!
SFX: (CRACKLE)
WHA... WHAT'S GOING ON?
SFX: (FLASH)
SFX: (BOOM)

SFX: <SHUU>
EH?
!?
EHHH!

!!
WHO ARE YOU?
WHERE IS THIS?
WHAT HAP-PENED TO ME?
UGH
SFX: <CONFUSED>
SFX: <STAGGER>
WHERE IS GEMIOS?
AAA-AAH!
SFX: <COLLAPSE>
WAKE UP!
AH! HEY!
IT'S DORIS
THIS OUTFIT THIS FACE .
EH?
THIS GIRL IS DORIS!

SFX. <STAND>



SFX. <CLATTER>

I SHOULD SAY THIS IS AWE-SOME!
BUT TO BE ABLE TO SEE A CHARACTER THAT I CREATED BEFORE MY VERY EYES...
I WONDER IF IT'S BECAUSE I FORCED THOSE GAMES TOGETHER...
THAT THIS HAP-PENED.
IT HURTS
WHERE AM I?
OH
SFX: (FLINCH)

I THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING TO DIE
THAT'S GREAT!
YOU'RE AWAKE!
HUH?
SFX <RUSTLE>
AH, YOU SHOULDN'T MOVE AROUND YET!
AH
WAS IT YOU WHO SAVED ME?
SFX <SIS>
SFX <KIIIIIIII>
HER WOUNDS ARE HEALED!
ONE NIGHT'S SLEEP AND MY MP IS FULL!
IT'S OKAY
SFX <SHUU>
THIS IS THE REJUVENATION SPELL FROM THE GAME
Healing spell

YOU REALLY ARE DORIS!
THIS IS AWESOME. IT REALLY ISN'T A DREAM!
AA-HHH
I FEEL MUCH BETTER.
SFX: (SLP SLP)
SFX: (STRETCH)
THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR HELP
I'M KID-DING
OH, IT'S NO BIG DEAL.
NO! LIH-
YOU WERE IN-JURED EVERY-WHERE
DID YOU SEE MY BREASTS?
SFX (SWEAT SWEAT)
AHH!
SFX (GASP)
AHH!
SFX (GIGGLE)

IF ONLY I'D BEEN MORE DILIGENT MAKING THE GAME...
I'M SOR-RY
THERE'S NO WAY I CAN DEFEAT HIM
I NEVER THOUGHT THE DEMON GEMIOS WOULD BE SO POWER-FUL...
SFX <PHEW>
YOU REALLY SAVED MY LIFE...
I THOUGHT I WAS GOING TO DIE...
WHY ARE YOU APOLO-GIZING?
AH...
SFX <SAD>
UH
THIS WON'T DO
WHY DON'T YOU PUT ON SOME OF MY CLOTHES FIRST?
SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT DYING HERE
THIS IS A WORLD WHERE GEMIOS AND ENEMIES DON'T EXIST,
I'M JUST GLAD YOU'RE ALIVE!
OH, IT'S NOTHING...

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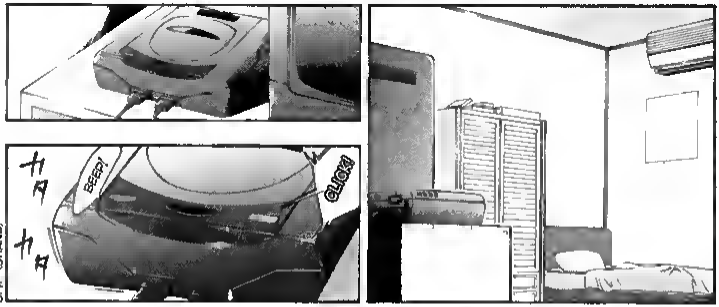
DOES EVERY-ONE DRESS THIS WAY?
OVER MY CHEST?
THESE CLOTHES ARE VERY STRANGE
WHY'RE THEY SO TIGHT?
I'VE NEVER SEEN ANY OF THESE THINGS BEFORE
AND IT'S SO STRANGE
I'D LIKE TO GO OUT AND LOOK AROUND!
UH... OUT?
THIS WORLD IS COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FROM YOURS
OF COURSE
I GUESS IT SHOULD BE OKAY
SFX. <STOMP>

IT SOUNDED LIKE YOU WERE YELLING LATE LAST NIGHT...
DON'T GO CRAZY JUST BECAUSE IT'S WINTER BREAK...
UH, JUST SOME-THING HAP-PENED...
ARE YOU GOING OUT, HIROAKI?
C'MON, HURRY!
?
SFX: (STARTLE)

I'LL BE MORE CAREFUL NEXT TIME


BEEP!
CLICK!
SFX: (SHAKE)

WHERE HAVE YOU GONE?
DORIS, DORIS!
I'LL NEVER LET YOU GET AWAY!

1010
WOW!
KFC Chicken
GOOD AFTER-NOON, MY NAME IS DORIS
AND YOU ARE?
MY NAME IS DORIS
DO-DO-RIS!
EVERYTHING IS BUILT OF STONE AND METAL, AND THERE ARE LOTS OF PEOPLE TOO!
THIS CITY IS FUN!
KEY COFFEE
SFX: KOO
I CAN'T GATHER INFORMATION THIS WAY...
WAIT, WAIT...
WOW
WHAT'S WRONG WITH EVERYONE?

EX-CUSE ME
DOES ANYONE KNOW WHERE GEMIOS THE DEMON KING IS?
WHOA! DORIS!
THERE'S SOME-ONE FLYING!
OH GOD, WHAT IS THAT?
Wings of Flight!
SFX: (FLOAT)
AA-ACK!
SFX: (GLIDE)
SFX: (CHATTER)
NO, I BET IT'S A CIR-CUS
WHAT'S WRONG?
WHAT'S GOING ON? IS IT A MOVIE?
THIS IS NOT THE TIME TO SAY "EH?"! GET DOWN HERE!
EH?
SFX: (GRAB)
HEY!
COME WITH ME FIRST!
SFX: (AMAZED) (OHH)
SFX: (THUD THUD)
DON'T ASK. JUST COME WITH ME!
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

WHAT'S WRONG, HIROAKI?
THAT JUST SCARED ME TO DEATH!
WHY?
NEVER-MIND WHY!
EXCEPT YOU CAN'T JUST FLY IN THE AIR LIKE THAT!
NO-THING MUCH,
WE DON'T HAVE TO FIGHT!
THEN HOW DO YOU FIGHT MON-STERS?
UNDER-STAND?
NOBODY CAN USE MAGIC LIKE THAT HERE
SFX: <SHAKE>
IF YOU CAN'T ACT LIKE A NORMAL GIRL, THINGS WILL BE COMPLI-CATED FOR ME!
UNDERSTAND? SO YOU MIGHT AS WELL FORGET ABOUT MAGIC AND FIGHTING
AND NOBODY KNOWS ANYTHING ABOUT THAT STUFF HERE!
THIS WORLD DOESN'T HAVE MONSTERS OR GEMIOS,

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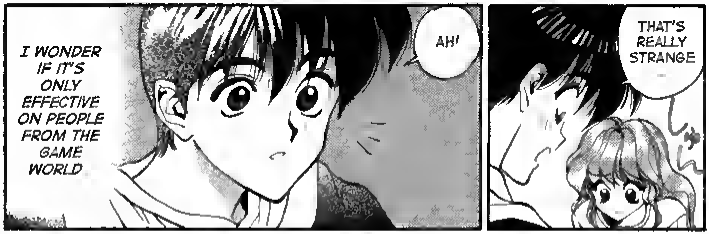
SFX: (SURPRISE)
WE MIGHT FIND SOME BARGAINS!
THEN LET'S GO SHOPPING AT WEAPONS STORES!
I UNDERSTAND NOW
ALL RIGHT...
BUT THEN I GUESS TALKING TO NPCS AND BUYING GEAR ARE FUNDAMENTALS IN RPGS
I JUST CAN'T BEAT HER...
Jobson
SHOP
SFX: (TP TP TP)
AHAHAHAHA!

AS LONG AS YOU LIKE IT...
I'VE NEVER BEEN THIS FREE BEFORE!
THIS REALLY IS A HAPPY WORLD!
AND USUALLY ADVENTURES IN BARREN COUNTRIES...
IT'S TRUE THAT THE DORIS IN THE GAME ONLY KNOWS FIGHTING...
IF I HADN'T CREATED HER, SHE'D NEVER HAVE TO LIVE SUCH A HARD LIFE
ALL SHE KNOWS IS HOW TO FIGHT MONSTERS TO INCREASE HER EXPERIENCE...
ALL THESE PLEASURES WE'VE EXPERIENCED, SHE NEVER HAS...
AH!
DORIS!
WHAT'S THE MATTER HIROAKI?
SFX: (SLIP)

SFX: (CRASH) (SQUISH)
AH!
OW! OW! OW!
YEAH
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
UH
THANK YOU...
B-DUMP B-DMP ...
!!!
!!!
SFX: (PAIN)
THAT HURTS!

THAT'S ODD, IT WORKS ON ME!
AH? THE MAGIC'S NOT WORKING?
Healing Spell!
JUST A MINUTE, LET ME FIX IT!
DAMN. THAT HURTS!
SFX. <LIGHT>
SFX. <MIST>
WHAT'S WRONG?


I WONDER IF IT'S ONLY EFFECTIVE ON PEOPLE FROM THE GAME WORLD
AH!
THAT'S REALLY STRANGE
SFX. <SAD>

BUT I LIKE IT—
HUH?
IT FEELS LIKE I JUST KEEP MAKING TROUBLE FOR YOU...
AND I CAN'T HEAL YOU...
I'M SORRY. YOU WERE HURT BECAUSE OF ME!

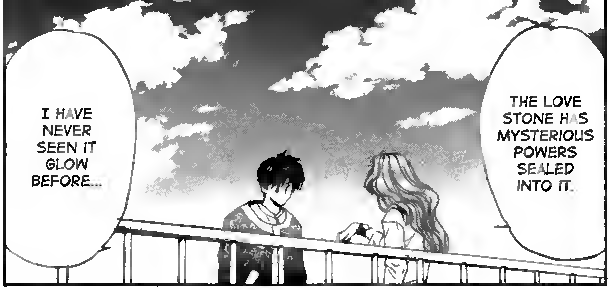
I PREFER THIS DORIS...
OVER DORIS, THE UNDEFEATABLE WARRIOR...
HAHA HA...
ANYWAY, THIS BIT OF PAIN...
DOESN'T COMPARE TO THE WOUNDS YOU GET WHEN YOU FIGHT...
I FEEL MY HEART GETTING WARMER TOO...
WARRIOR, PLEASE DEFEAT GEMIOS THE DEMON!
WARRIOR-SAMA, PLEASE TEACH US PROTECTION SPELLS FOR OUR TOWN!
IF WE DIDN'T HAVE YOU...
WARRIOR-SAMA! WARRIOR-SAMA!
HE'S INCREDIBLE...
HIROAKI IS LIKE NO ONE I'VE EVER MET BEFORE...
HE MAKES ME RELAX COMPLETELY

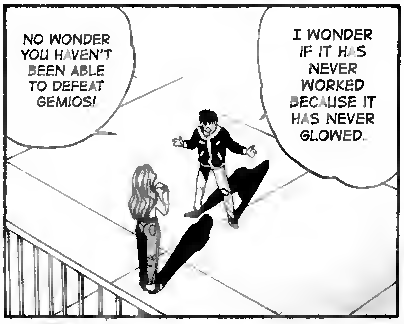
COM-
PLETELY
DIFFER-
ENT
FROM
WHERE
I GREW
UP.
EVERY-
THING I SEE
HERE IS
STRANGE
AND FUN
IT'S
WON-
DERFUL
HERE!
AND
IT'S AS
PEACEFUL
AS I
COULD
WISH FOR
THERE'S NO
POVERTY
HERE,
EVERYONE
SEEMS
CONTENT,
WHY ARE
YOU SO
KIND AND
GENTLE
TO ME?
SO
TELL
ME,
DO-
RIS

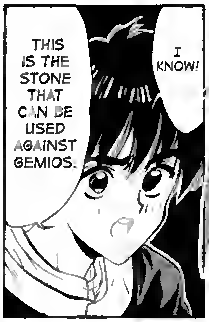
OF COURSE... I DID CREATE HER AFTER ALL!
UH...
YOU SEEM TO KNOW A LOT ABOUT ME TOO...
IF I TELL YOU, YOU MIGHT NOT UNDERSTAND...
THE REASON I KNOW SO MUCH ABOUT YOU IS...
THE WORLD THAT YOU FIGHT IN WAS CREATED FROM MY IMAGI-NATION...
I HOPE YOU DON'T HAVE TO FIGHT ANYMORE AND WILL LIVE HAPPILY FROM NOW ON...
I THINK THAT BEING A NORMAL GIRL SUITS YOU BETTER THAN BEING A WARRIOR...
AND YOU ARE THE DREAM WARRIOR I CREATED
SINCE I'VE MET YOU, MY THINKING'S CHANGED
MY CHEST HURTS SOME-HOW
Clench
WHAT'S GOING ON?
SFX: (8 BMP)

THIS IS—
WHAT'S WRONG?
!!
THE LOVE STONE IS GLOWING?
SFX: <SHINE>

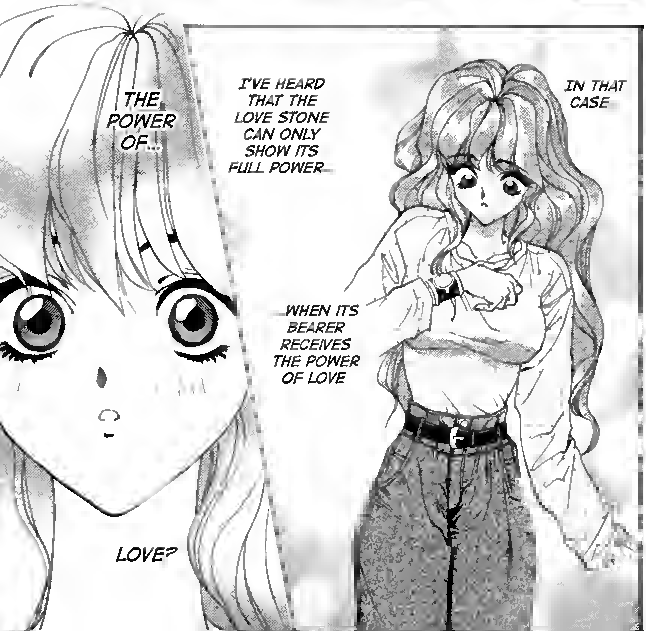
SFX: <BZZT BZZT> <CRACKLE>
YOU'RE THERE AREN'T YOU, DORIS ?
DORIS
CRACKLE!
AH, YOU ARE IN THIS WORLD!
I HAVE FINALLY FOUND YOU, DORIS!


I HAVE NEVER SEEN IT GLOW BEFORE...
THE LOVE STONE HAS MYSTERIOUS POWERS SEALED INTO IT.


NO WONDER YOU HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO DEFEAT GEMIOS!
I WONDER IF IT HAS NEVER WORKED BECAUSE IT HAS NEVER GLOWED.


THIS IS THE STONE THAT CAN BE USED AGAINST GEMIOS.
I KNOW!

I HAVE FINALLY FOUND YOU!


THE POWER OF...
I'VE HEARD THAT THE LOVE STONE CAN ONLY SHOW ITS FULL POWER
IN THAT CASE
WHEN ITS BEARER RECEIVES THE POWER OF LOVE
LOVE?

SFX: <BOOM>

...LIKES ME?
HIROAKI...

NOW THAT THE LOVE STONE HAS BEGUN TO REVEAL ITS POWER...
IF I CONFRONT GEMIOS NOW, I MAY BE ABLE TO DEFEAT HIM
HUH?
HOW DO I RETURN TO MY WORLD?
HIRO-AKI...
HIL
SEE YOU!

YOU JUST HAVE TO STAY IN THIS WORLD TO HAVE NO TROUBLES AND LIVE IN PEACE!
YOU... BUT WHY?
NO...
I WOULD RA-- THER NOT HAVE TO FIGHT...
DO YOU STILL WANT TO GO BACK ANYWAY?
IF YOU GO BACK TO FIGHT GEMIOS,
YOU MAY GET KILLED THIS TIME!
AND WILL NEVER BE AS PEACEFUL AS THIS WORLD IS
BUT EVERY DAY THAT GEMIOS IS UNDEFEATED, MY COUNTRY WILL CONTINUE TO SUFFER...
I WANT MY PEOPLE TO EXPERIENCE THE HAPPINESS I HAD TODAY
I WILL KEEP FIGHTING FOR THAT DREAM
THIS HAS BEEN THE HAPPIEST DAY OF MY LIFE..

THAT YOU WERE ABLE TO TREAT ME JUST LIKE A NORMAL GIRL.
SO I'M VERY HAPPY...
I'VE ALWAYS BEEN TREATED LIKE A LEGENDARY WARRIOR...
DO IS ...
SHE'S RIGHT. IF THE GAME ISN'T DEFEATED, THE GAME WORLD WILL CONTINUE TO STAY THE SAME...
SFX: <SHINE>
THANK YOU, HIROAKI.
!!!

I HAVE FOUND YOU, DORIS!
GEMIOS!
HA HA HA HA HA!

SFX: CTHUG THUG!
EVERY-ONE, RUN!
WHAT IS THAT?
WHOA!
SFX: (SHOCK)
DON'T THINK YOU'LL BE ABLE TO GET AWAY FROM ME THIS TIME, DORIS!
YOU ARE DESTINED TO BE TORN APART BY ME!
SEIBU
big A
SFX: (SHOCK)
WHAT? NOT WITHOUT YOU!
NO!
QUICK, RUN, HIRO-AK!!
THE FAR-THER THE BET-TER!
HOW DID GEMIOS ...?
AH!
HE CHASED ME HERE?

DO-RIS!

ALTHOUGH I NEVER THOUGHT I WOULD FIGHT HIM HERE,

BUT AS LONG AS HE LIVES, I MUST DEFEAT HIM! THIS IS MY DUTY

SFX: (DASH)

SFX: (FLASH)

Heavy Armor!

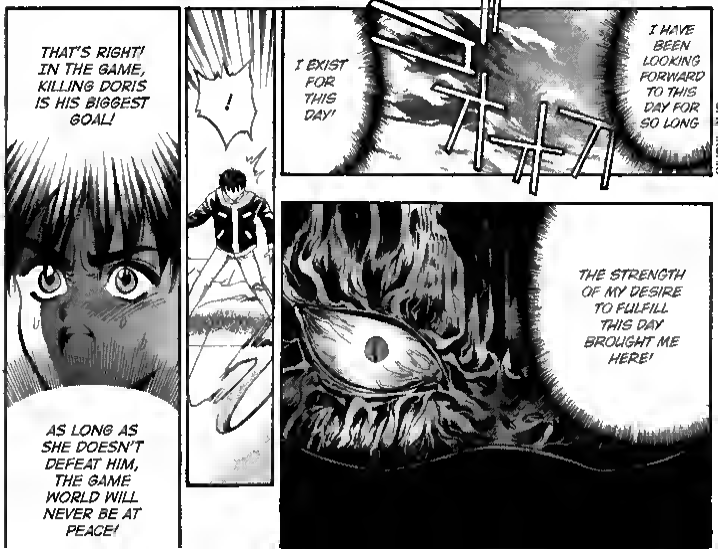
SFX: (TRANSFORM)

Prison of Heavenly White Flames!
HAHAHA! WAS THAT A MOSQUITO'S STING I FELT?
SFX: (BLAST)
BLACK DRAGON LIGHT!
SFX: (BOOM)
GAH!
SFX: (SMACK)
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN YOUR MAGIC HAS NO EFFECT ON ME?

SFX: 〈BOOM〉
DIE, DORIS!
SFX: 〈SWISH〉
!!
De-mon Shield Wall!
SFX: 〈ROAR〉
STUPID THING! DO YOU THINK THIS KIND OF WALL WILL BE ANY USE?

NO!
THE SHIELD WALL IS CRACKING!
CRACK
CRACK
AH!
SFX: CRACK

YOU MAY FINALLY REST IN PEACE AT MY HANDS!
AHAHAHA! I AM SO HAPPY, DORIS!


THAT'S RIGHT! IN THE GAME, KILLING DORIS IS HIS BIGGEST GOAL!
!
I EXIST FOR THIS DAY!
I HAVE BEEN LOOKING FORWARD TO THIS DAY FOR SO LONG
SFX: CRACK
THE STRENGTH OF MY DESIRE TO FULFILL THIS DAY BROUGHT ME HERE!
AS LONG AS SHE DOESN'T DEFEAT HIM, THE GAME WORLD WILL NEVER BE AT PEACE!

DAM-MIT!
WHAT CAN I DO?
I HAVE TO FIND A WAY TO HELP DORIS...
BUT WHAT CAN I DO IN A SITUATION LIKE THIS?

AM I JUST GOING TO STAND BY AND WATCH HIM KILL DORIS?
NO WAY!
TO WATCH HER DIE...

SFX: <CLENCH>
!!!
THE MAGIC'S NOT WORK-ING!
I'LL HAVE TO TAKE A GAMBLE!
LIVE OR DIE!

IT'S OVER!

SFX <APPEAR>

SFX <SLASH>

WATCH OUT, DORIS!

SFX <PUSH>

SFX <GASP>

HIRO-AKI!

SFX <SKID>

SFX: <KABOOM>
AH!
AHH!
HOW
HIROAKI!
SFX: <FLASH>

GAAAH!
WHAT IS THIS POWER?
MY POWER OF DARKNESS IS RECEDING...
NOTHING HAS GRIEVED ME LIKE THIS BEFORE...
MY HEART HURTS LIKE IT HAS BEEN PIERCED THROUGH
HOW CAN THIS BE?
HIROAKI IS DEAD...
IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN ME...

RebelliousArt
MangaArt's Fallen Angels

GW AA AA AA AA AH!
WHAT ON EARTH IS HAP-- PENING?
THIS IS...?
THE LOVE STONE MUST BE SHOWING ITS TRUE POWER!
AM I DREAMING?
HIROAKI!
YOU'RE REALLY ALIVE!

I'M FINE— I JUST GOT THROWN BY THE EXPLOSION...
OH! HIRO-AKI!
BUT LIKE I GUESSED, YOUR MAGIC HAS NO EFFECT ON ME!
LET'S TALK LATER. WE NEED TO FINISH GEMIOS OFF!
UNDER THE POWER OF THE LOVE STONE, HE HAS NO MORE MAGICAL DEFENSES!
YOUR MAGIC SHOULD WORK ON HIM NOW!
Holy Killing Strike!
SFX: (BLAST)
SFX: (MEMORIES)

GAH... DAMN YOU...
GW AA AA AA AA AA H
RESUR-RECT!
SFX: SLASH
RIGHT!
SOMETHING'S HAPPENING ON HIS RIGHT WRIST... TARGET THAT FIRST!
ICE FREEZE
SFX: CRACKLE

UGHHHHH!
SFX: <SMASH>
IMPOSSIBLE! THIS LITTLE GIRL IS CAUSING DAMAGE TO ME!
GREAT, ONE LAST HIT!
Ultimate spell!
RIGHT!
Holy Fire of Obliteration!
SFX: <IMPACT>

GUAAAAAAAAA!

SFX: (BOOM BOOM)

I DID IT!
I FINALLY DEFEATED HIM!
I FINALLY DID IT!
CONGRATULATIONS DORIS!
YOU REALLY ARE AWESOME...
DEFEATING GEMIOS WITH A FRAGILE BODY LIKE YOURS...

AH!
HIRO-AKI!
HIRO-AKI...
SFX: <FADE>
SFX: <STEP>

DON'T WORRY... I THINK YOU'RE RETURNING HOME...
HOME?
YES...
MY BODY... WHAT'S HAPPENING?

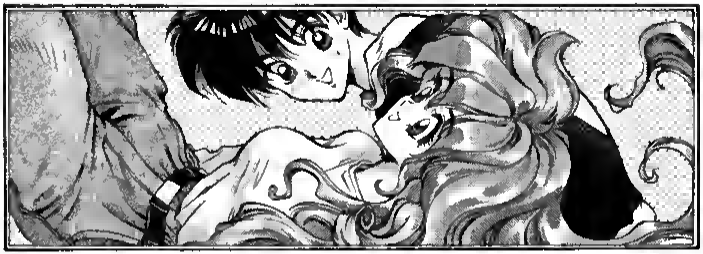
THE GAME IS OVER...
THAT'S RIGHT, ONCE YOU DEFEAT THE DEMON KING,
YOUR NOW PEACEFUL HOME...

I'VE ALWAYS FELT YOU'VE HAD A STRANGE MAGIC...
I'M VERY HAPPY...
THEN... I HAVE TO PART WITH YOU FOREVER?
I ONLY REALIZED IT WHEN I THOUGHT YOU HAD DIED
I LIKE YOU VERY MUCH.
THAT BROUGHT ME HERE AND LET ME BE HAPPY FOR A WHILE.
YES... IT CAN'T BE HELPED...
I'LL NEVER FORGET THIS...
DORIS
THANK YOU...
I WILL NEVER FORGET YOU...
FOR TAKING CARE OF ME...
I DON'T WANT TO BE APART FROM YOU EITHER...
DO-- RIS!
I DON'T WANT TO NEVER SEE YOU AGAIN...

JUST LIKE THAT, DORIS DISAP-PEARED
AND EVEN MY GAME FILES DISAPPEARED WITH HER

...HELPED DORIS TO APPEAR IN THIS WORLD SO WE COULD DEFEAT GEMIOS TOGETHER.
MAYBE BECAUSE OF THAT, THE SPIRITS OF ALL THOSE GAMES WHO WISHED ME TO COMPLETE THE GAME...
WHEN I THINK BACK ON IT, THERE WAS NO WAY TO DEFEAT GEMIOS...
AS LONG AS THE LOVE STONE COULD NOT BE ACTIVATED.
DO-RIS...
I THINK YOU'LL PROBABLY NEVER APPEAR IN THE REAL WORLD AGAIN, WILL YOU?
BUT I CAN SEE YOU...
HAPPY NOW THAT YOU'VE FINALLY FOUND PEACE FOR YOUR KINGDOM...
JEWEL OF LOVE (END)

GAME CLEAR



JEWEL OF LOVE

One day, I suddenly felt like "it might be a good idea to sometimes draw something like this," so I drew this work. This time, there isn't any theme in particular I wanted to show through the story. Normally if it's like this, when turning the ideas in my head straight into picture panels, it's very difficult to get past the editor, but surprisingly, this time the editor actually admitted this story easily.

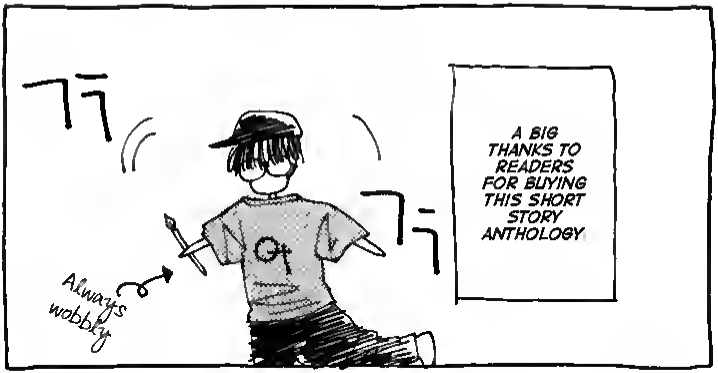
Let's reveal another background story. There was another point to me drawing this story. I wanted to draw another one-shot so that it would add up to 120 pages with the previous PROTO ONE story, and then I can release a short story anthology. (I just didn't expect that the plan would go so smoothly.....)

The most impressionable thing about this work was how at the time, I really didn't want to discuss it with the editor. Just let me say a bit more about this. I felt that letting someone else read a story that was entirely a love story was really quite an embarrassing thing to do. Even if it's my job, I can't help but blush and sweat profusely, so that's why I hate it. I wonder if those artists who draw romantic comedies and romantic manga would normally think like this. If that's the case, I really must admire them.

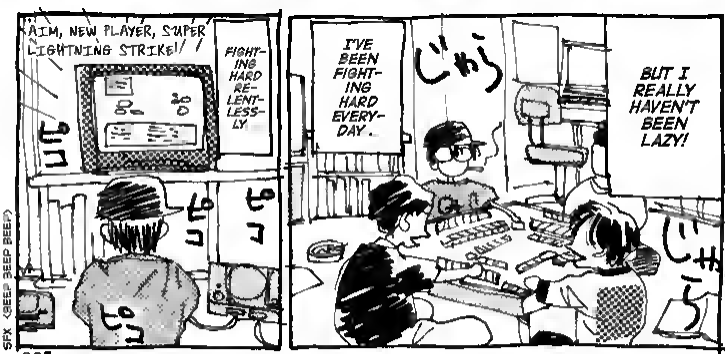
That's right, this is the first time I'm drawing pictures of a monster, and it seems like I don't have any talent in this area (laughs). Whatever the case, I learned a lot from this. If there's anything to be disappointed about, I really wanted Doris to wear clothing that girls would wear (unfortunately this wasn't possible in the course of the story). Also, the screentones in the last half of the story were stuck on really badly, so I'd ask the readers to please automatically ignore those hilarious bits (I really didn't have time to touch up this time.....).

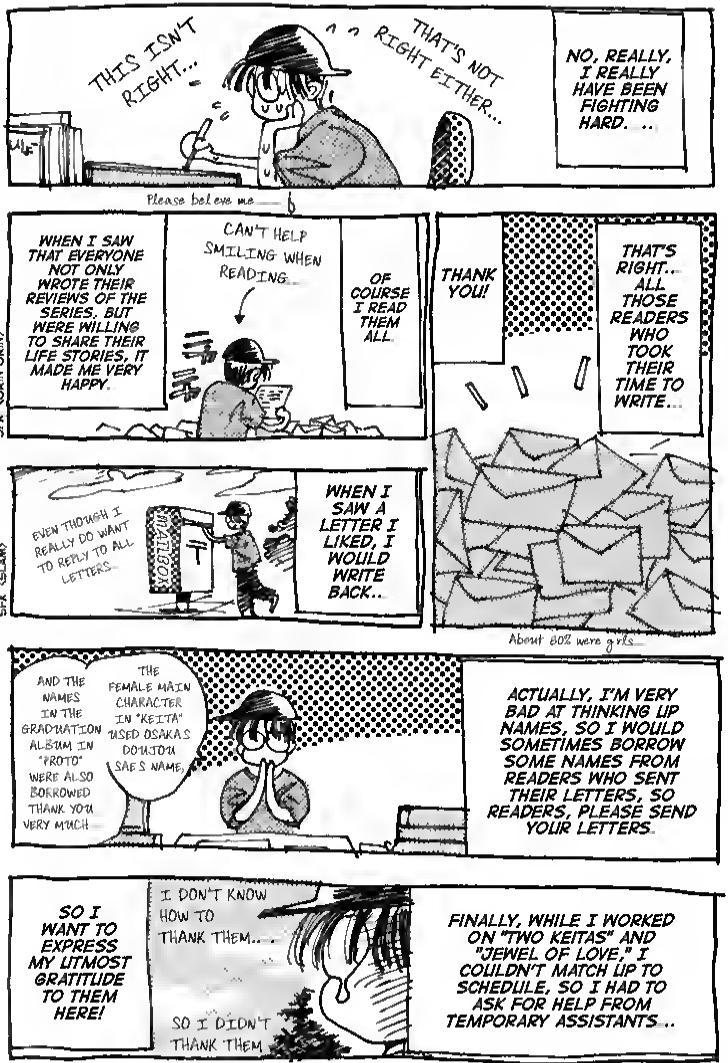
RebelliousArt
MangaArt's Fallen Angels

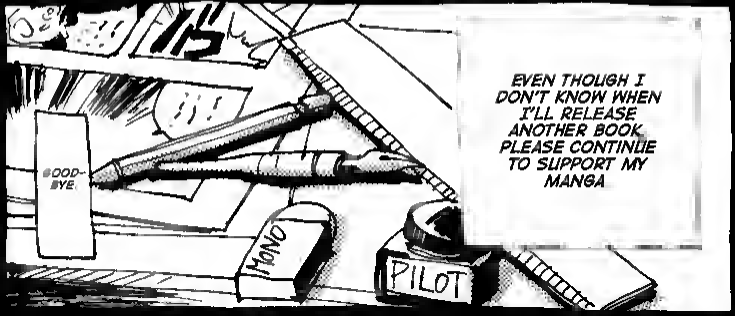
AFTERWORD


SFX (WOBBLE WOBBLE)
Always wobbly
A BIG THANKS TO READERS FOR BUYING THIS SHORT STORY ANTHOLOGY.

THERE SHOULD BE A LIMIT TO HOW SLOW ONE CAN BE...
ACTUALLY I DO STILL HAVE WORKS LIKE MID-NIGHT...
HONESTLY, I DIDN'T THINK IT WOULD TAKE FOUR YEARS TO BE ABLE TO COLLATE ENOUGH FOR ONE BOOK
AND IT'S ALL THANKS TO MY EDITOR SHIMA-SAN'S HARD WORK.
FOR SOMEONE SLOW LIKE ME, WHO CAN ONLY RELEASE ONE OR TWO WORKS A YEAR, TO BE ABLE TO RELEASE THIS SHORT STORY ANTHOLOGY, IT'S ALL THANKS TO THE READERS...
SFX (SHINE)


AIM, NEW PLAYER, SUPER LIGHTNING STRIKE!!
FIGHTING HARD RELENTLESSLY.
SFX (BEEP BEEP BEEP)
I'VE BEEN FIGHTING HARD EVERYDAY.
じゃう
BUT I REALLY HAVEN'T BEEN LAZY!
SFX (CLATTER)


THIS ISN'T RIGHT...
THAT'S NOT RIGHT EITHER...
NO, REALLY, I REALLY HAVE BEEN FIGHTING HARD. ...
Please believe me
WHEN I SAW THAT EVERYONE NOT ONLY WROTE THEIR REVIEWS OF THE SERIES, BUT WERE WILLING TO SHARE THEIR LIFE STORIES, IT MADE ME VERY HAPPY.
CAN'T HELP SMILING WHEN READING...
OF COURSE I READ THEM ALL.
SFX <GRIN GRIN>
THANK YOU!
THAT'S RIGHT... ALL THOSE READERS WHO TOOK THEIR TIME TO WRITE...
About 80% were girls
EVEN THOUGH I REALLY DO WANT TO REPLY TO ALL LETTERS...
WHEN I SAW A LETTER I LIKED, I WOULD WRITE BACK...
SFX <SLAM>
AND THE NAMES IN THE GRADUATION ALBUM IN "FROTO" WERE ALSO BORROWED THANK YOU VERY MUCH
THE FEMALE MAIN CHARACTER IN "KEITA" USED OSAKA'S DOMJOJI SAE'S NAME.
ACTUALLY, I'M VERY BAD AT THINKING UP NAMES, SO I WOULD SOMETIMES BORROW SOME NAMES FROM READERS WHO SENT THEIR LETTERS, SO READERS, PLEASE SEND YOUR LETTERS.
SO I WANT TO EXPRESS MY UTMOST GRATITUDE TO THEM HERE!
I DON'T KNOW HOW TO THANK THEM...
SO I DIDN'T THANK THEM.
FINALLY, WHILE I WORKED ON "TWO KEITAS" AND "JEWEL OF LOVE," I COULDN'T MATCH UP TO SCHEDULE, SO I HAD TO ASK FOR HELP FROM TEMPORARY ASSISTANTS...
Oi oi.....



Kanou Yasuhiro
Short Story Anthology

BLACK CITY

〈EDITOR〉 Shima Tomoyuki
"Two Keitas"
"PROTO ONE"
"JEWEL OF LOVE"

〈ASSISTANTS〉

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Jinno Seiji
Okahisa Yoshiki

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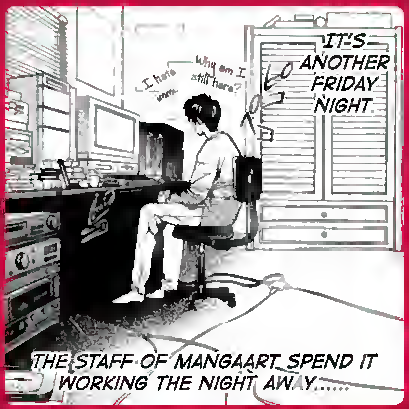
Fuse Ryuu
Hirose Hiroyuki
Jinno Seiji
Okada Tomohide

〈SPECIAL THANKS〉

Tachihara Touya
(Sky Blue Publishing)

Black City

by Yasuhiro Kano



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Chapter 004
(Jewel of Love)

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